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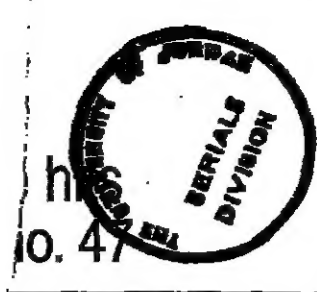
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Swiss banks offer \$1.2b. to settle Holocaust claims

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - The lawsuits against the two major Swiss commercial banks appeared to be near a settlement yesterday, as the banks offered \$1.2 billion to resolve claims that they failed to return Jewish assets to Holocaust survivors and their heirs, according to advocates for both sides.

That is an increase of some \$300 million over the June settlement offer, sources said.

The earlier offer had been for \$600m, plus the worth of whatever assets would be uncovered by Paul Volcker, who is overseeing a forensic audit of dormant Swiss accounts. The Volcker committee is said to have identified assets worth some \$300m. in current dollars.

Attorneys for survivors and the banks - UBS AG and Credit Suisse Group - yesterday were in day-long meetings in Brooklyn with US District Judge Edward Korman, who would oversee any settlement.

It was Korman who suggested that \$1.2 billion was a reasonable figure, according to legal sources on both sides.

The banks' offer would cover all claims against the commercial banks, the Swiss National Bank and Swiss industries, two authoritative Swiss sources said.

The banks also were trying to include Swiss insurance companies in the deal.

A dozen European insurance companies are facing suits on grounds of failing to honor Jewish policies from the war era. One of those companies, Winterthur, is owned by Credit Suisse.

Under the deal, if the offer is accepted, survivors' representatives would waive the right to make any future claims against the Swiss central and commercial banks and Swiss industry, and would be expected to press US state and local governments to cancel threatened sanctions against Switzerland, US sources said.

It is possible, sources said, that the settlement also would resolve the suit brought in January by Christoph Meili, the Zurich bank guard who was fired after salvaging war-era documents that were set to be shredded by Union Bank.

Meili, who is now living in the US under a special act of Congress, was seeking more than \$2 billion for himself and in compensation for the Swiss people.

There have been previous rumblings that a settlement was imminent, only to collapse at the last moment.

"Whether there will be one today is unclear and looks more doubtful as the day goes on," Paul Gallagher, one of the plaintiff's lawyers, said in Washington at mid-day.

One of the sticking points was said to be the terms of payment; the Swiss want to pay the money out over five years, but were resisting a demand to pay interest, sources said.

Negotiations had collapsed in June when survivors' lawyers and Jewish groups rejected as insulting what the banks called a final offer of \$600 million.

The banks had said in June that they would contend only with claims against banks, and that they were not liable for - and could not be expected to pay - claims against the Swiss National Bank or Swiss industry.

The Swiss government is not a direct party to the talks, although US Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat, who has been mediating the talks, called on Bern to take an active role in resolving the suits.

The Swiss central bank, a public institution, was the primary conduit through which Nazi Germany laundered looted gold for hard currency with which it bought war materiel.

The cabinet yesterday approved the 1999 state budget framework, with expenditures totalling NIS 173.8 billion. The vote was 10 to six.

The budget's approval followed three days of debate, which culminated in heated disagreement between Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai (Shas) and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, according to witnesses.

Opposition leaders assailed the proposal, among them Labor Party Secretary-General MK Ra'anan Cohen, who denounced the budget as a proposal "to eternalize unemployment (and) recession and a disaster for the economy."

Those voting against the package were Interior Minister Eli Suissa (Shas), Yishai, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein (Yisrael Ba'aliya), Education Minister Yitzhak Levy (NRP) and Science Minister Silvan Shalom (Likud). Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai did not vote.

The key measures approved were:

- Government expenditure set at NIS 173.8b.
- A budget deficit no higher than two percent of the gross domestic product, or NIS 7.8b.
- The establishment of a monthly cabinet meeting on the economic situation in general and unemployment in particular.
- Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel's appearance at such meetings and the demand that he give a monthly monetary report.
- Freezing of the minimum wage in real terms on condition that senior civil servants' pay doesn't increase at a faster rate.
- The reduction in unemployment by 30,000 by the end of 1999, in addition to the cut of 20,000 over the next two months approved a fortnight ago.

This last measure flabbergasted ministers and journalists alike. During a news conference immediately after the vote, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the 30,000 was an additional target for 1999, in addition to those already set, such as 4% inflation.

However, when asked whether that meant a 30,000 decrease based on the present jobless total of 210,000, Neeman described the Central Bureau of Statistics figure as "a holy myth."

Neither Neeman nor his staff were prepared to tell the cabinet or reporters how they will quantify the 30,000 in December next year.

"I don't understand this at all, I suggested a percentage reduction," Edelstein told *The Jerusalem Post* last night. "In any case I don't understand how they're going to create this number of jobs."

"The reason I voted against the budget was the target of 2.5% (economic) growth next year. It's clear that's a target for stagnation because with the increase in the population (also at 2.5%) it means there will be no growth."

Yisrael Ba'aliya met yesterday to discuss the possibility of holding a Knesset debate on the budget during its current recess.

Labor Whip Elie Goldschmidt, meanwhile, mustered the requisite 30 signatures needed to call a special session to debate government economic policy, which he denounced as "anti-social."

He has submitted the petition to the Knesset Speaker's office.

During the stormy cabinet debate and following a lengthy discussion of the unemployment situation, Yishai reportedly shouted at Neeman, "Where's your help for the unemployed? You've done nothing, only made headlines."

Neeman responded: "You haven't done anything and yours is the ministry in charge of job creation."

Yishai: "You're responsible for the program and hold the money."

Yishai then left the room, saying he did not want to be part of such "a show."

It was unclear throughout the day how individual ministers would vote, with some who attended the meeting saying it appeared by mid-afternoon as

though the Treasury did not have a majority and faced the possibility of having to redraft the budget.

The specifics of the budget will only be decided at the end of the month, but both Netanyahu and Neeman made it clear yesterday that defense and infrastructure projects will receive high priority.

"There must be a solution for the strategic problems of recent years," said Netanyahu, promising an increase in defense spending but refusing to say in what areas and by how much money.

"In the last 10 years no government has increased investments [in the military]. This has to change."

As the budget aims to tackle the rise in unemployment, it will include an NIS 1 billion increase in infrastructure spending, according to an official in the Prime Minister's Office.

The budgetary arrangements bill will carry plans for spending a further NIS 2b. - 3b. on infrastructure either in the private sector or through government authorized agencies, such as Israel Electric Corporation and Israel Railways.

Much of this spending will go into the railways, said the official, though he declined to elaborate.

The budget will also include a small increase in the research and development budget, the official said.

In the coming weeks, the government will also launch an in-factory training scheme, whereby it will help fund practical courses for unemployed people on the condition that employers will add the trainees to the payroll upon completion of the course.

Itim reported that the cabinet also decided to legislate the privatization of water production via the budgetary arrangements bill. This involves an amendment to the 1959 Water Law, which would require Mekorot to allow private water companies to use its pipelines.

The Treasury now has to regroup and work out the particulars of the budget ensuring there is no breach of the deficit target, while trying to ensure a majority in the cabinet and in the Knesset by December 31.

Liat Collins contributed to this report.

Gov't OKs budget despite dissent

By DAVID HARRIS

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1999 Budget

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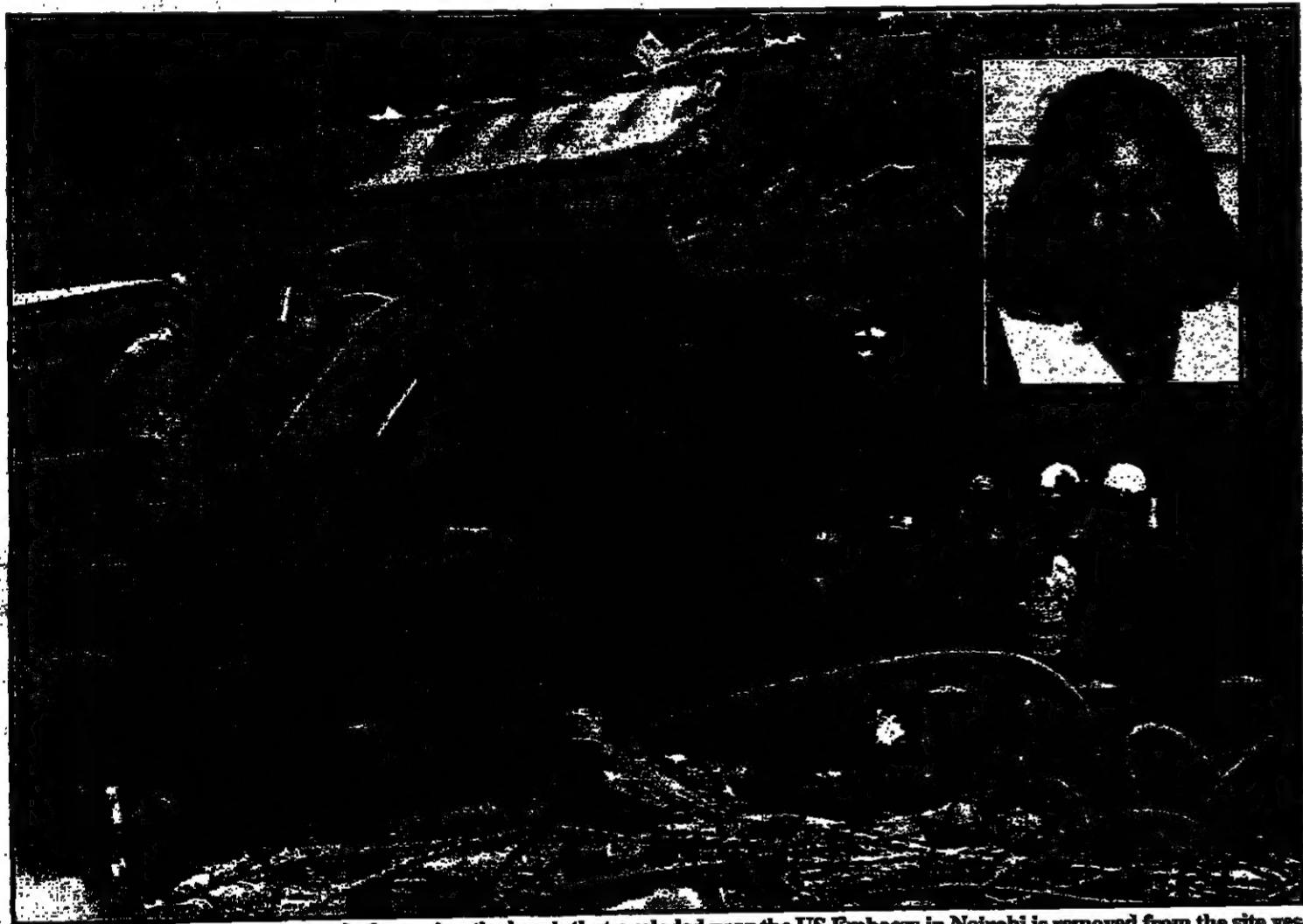
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The wreckage of the car suspected of carrying the bomb that exploded near the US Embassy in Nairobi is removed from the site yesterday. The explosion last Friday killed 244 people and wounded more than 5,000. Inset: Rose Irungu, whose body was found yesterday after she fought for days to stay alive in the rubble. (Reuters; inset AP)

Kenya arrests suspects in embassy bombing; IDF rescue team due home

By JOHN O'CALLAGHAN

NAIROBI (Reuters) - Kenyan authorities have arrested a number of people in connection with the deadly car bomb attack on the US Embassy in Nairobi, President Daniel arap Moi said yesterday.

"A number of persons have been detained in relation to this incident and are providing useful leads into the circumstances surrounding the bomb blast," Moi said in a statement. "It gave no further details of the arrests."

A least 247 people were killed in Nairobi and 10 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, when two bombs exploded at the US embassies there only minutes apart. More than 5,000 people were wounded. A multinational rescue team

began wrapping up its operation in Nairobi yesterday after abandoning hope of pulling any more survivors from a flattened five-story office block.

The last glimmer evaporated in

A voice in the dark, Page 6

the early hours of the day when the Israeli-led team recovered the body of Rose Wanjiku, whom rescuers had heard tapping from beneath the rubble on Monday.

"This morning we finished the mission," said IDF Col. Udi Ben-Uri. "We pulled out 95 bodies (since rescue efforts began). We found three people trapped alive."

Wanjiku, a Kenyan, had been trapped under the debris of Ufundi House next to the embassy.

"She was in a small open space. There was no damage to her body. She was dead," an Israeli officer told Reuters.

At a ceremony to mark the end of the search operation, a large gathering of Kenyan, French, Israeli and US rescue workers and officials held a minute's silence in remembrance of the victims.

The commander of the Israeli team, Col. Shalom Ben-Ari read a speech which ended with the Hebrew saying: "He who saves one life saves the entire world."

Officials laid wreaths at a mound of rubble which had been prepared in front of what used to be Ufundi House.

An emotional Prudence Bushnell, the US ambassador to Kenya, scattered a bunch of roses over the wreaths and then, almost as an afterthought, took one stem away with her.

As she left, she placed the single rose in the barbed wire encircling the entrance to the US Embassy, perhaps as a gesture to the 12 Americans killed in the blast.

The IDF's rescue team is due to return to Israel aboard IAF transport planes this evening.

Tanzanian police arrested 14 - six Iraqis, six Sudanese, a Somali and a Turk - in their search for those responsible for the Dar es Salaam bombing but said on Tuesday that none had been charged.

See KENYA, Page 2

Labor presses for decision on elections

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN and DAVID HARRIS

In a bid to enable the holding of early elections, Labor Party leaders yesterday demanded that MK Haim Ramon (NRP), chairman of the Knesset Law and Constitution Committee, speed up the debate over the law to dissolve the Knesset.

But Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ruled out early elections and said that his government is as strong now as it has ever been.

"The elections will take place on time," he said during a press conference in his office.

During a meeting with Porat at Labor headquarters in Tel Aviv, party chairman Ehud Barak and MKs Haim Ramon and Ra'anan Cohen pressed for rapid committee deliberations despite the summer recess. The law passed its preliminary reading during the Knesset's last session before the break.

"There is no need for pressure. I don't intend to bury the law proposal, nor do I intend to act hastily," Porat said later.

"I will meet the prime minister and hear his position, with the intention of reaching an agreement between the sides, as this has always been done in the past [with similar legislation]," he said.

Ramon said after the meeting that Labor has one goal: to advance the elections.

"The prime minister has lost the

confidence of the people and the Knesset, and he is now hiding behind the Knesset recess and parliamentary tricks. We asked Porat not to let Netanyahu continue ruling without a majority, and merely on the basis of parliamentary tricks," Ramon said.

"It is no longer a political issue, but a national one. A government which has brought on the increase of crime and the unemployment of 210,000 people and the danger of war has come to the end of the road and has no right to exist," he said.

Netanyahu, in his remarks to reporters, said: "Every day, every week we hear about the death of this government, the impending death, yet it carries on and achieves things such as security, peace, a correct economy, and a more just society."

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman added that the 1999 state budget is not, as economists have suggested, an election budget.

"The elections will take place as scheduled in November 2000," said Neeman. "A national unity government is a possibility that has been raised, but only one of many," said Netanyahu.

Aloni seeks to block Sarid bid for PM, Page 4 PM: National unity not on the agenda, Page 3

He added he had no doubt the proposal would pass in the Knesset, "because it is supported by a real majority."

Barak told Porat the government headed by Netanyahu has brought the state to a dead end in all aspects.

Britain checks claim \$600m. confiscated in Mandate era

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON - The British government is urgently examining Israeli claims that up to \$600 million (at today's prices) was confiscated from banks in Mandatory Palestine by Britain during World War II.

The claim has been made by Knesset Banking Subcommittee Chairman MK Yona Yahav.

He says the funds, much of which belonged to European Jews who were citizens of countries under Nazi occupation, were seized by the British Custodian of Enemy Property as "enemy assets."

In 1950, says Yahav, then-finance minister Eliezer Kaplan

and then-governor of the Bank of Israel David Horovitz signed an agreement with the British government agreeing to forgo at least some of the confiscated funds if Britain lifted the ban on supplying gas, oil and arms to Israel.

However, the fate of the funds remains unclear.

According to one theory, the assets were transferred to British banks between 1940 and 1942, but in 1946 they were returned to the Anglo-Palestine Bank, later Bank Leumi.

Yahav has raised the issue with Lord Sandwell, who was appointed by the British government to investigate the issue of enemy property that was confiscated in Britain during the war.

Howard Ewing, an aide to Lord Sandwell, said that while the issue of assets confiscated in Palestine fell outside the inquiry's terms of reference, the matter had been raised with the government, which is "looking into the issue as a matter of urgency."

Ewing noted that the 1950 agreement included the payment by Britain of over £1 million in settlement of assets held by the Custodian of Enemy Property.

But Yahav said he could see no reason why Britain should not repay the assets in full and has applied for grants that will enable Bar-Ilan University students to research the issue in Israeli government and bank archives.



Press photographer roughed up at Itamar

By GIL HOFFMAN

A group of settlers in Itamar, near Nablus, attacked a *Ma'ariv* photographer yesterday and tried to prevent the car he was riding in from leaving the settlement, the photographer claimed.

He was documenting a visit by Peace Now activists, one of 20 teams sent by the organization yesterday to count the number of empty houses in settlements in Judea and Samaria, as well as the number of units being built.

Photographer Yoav Leff said he had stayed behind after other journalists had left to take pictures of an abandoned building, when a man came and tried to grab his camera, breaking his flash unit. Leff retreated to a waiting taxi, but as it tried to drive off it was followed by a jeep which blocked it. A group of settlers then surrounded the car to prevent it from leaving, Leff said, and when he left the car to try to photograph the incident he was physically attacked.

"There was a man sitting on the hood of the car, and a group of men who were not permitting us to leave. When I left the car to film it, someone jumped on me and tried to break my camera. He grabbed the camera and asked me how to take out the film. I gave him the film and he let me have the camera back," Leff said.

Leff said his hand was hurt and he received a number of scratches in the tussle. "I wasn't scared. I knew he didn't want to hurt me. I was just scared for the camera. If I wouldn't have given him the film he would have hit me more or broken the camera," Leff said.

The taxi in which Leff and three Peace Now activists were riding was not permitted to leave Itamar until an army officer came and intervened. Israel Radio said the

settlers cited "security reasons" for attempting to prevent the taxi from leaving.

Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza spokesman Yehudit Tayar condemned the incident, but added, "One could almost sympathize with the agitation of the Jewish residents of Itamar, who only yesterday got up from mourning."

Council director Aharon Domb had issued a statement earlier in the day calling on Judea and Samaria residents to graciously welcome the Peace Now activists. Peace Now secretary-general Moshe Raz said that in most of the settlements the activists were given cold drinks — it was different only in Itamar.

Raz told reporters that the findings of the teams, combined with information from those sent to Gaza a few weeks ago, reveal a 15 percent increase in the number of housing units under construction in the territories since a similar survey was conducted last year. The number of unpopulated units decreased to about 2,900 from 3,200 a year ago.

Raz said the numbers indicate that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had broken a promise to build in the territories at the rate of natural growth, which Raz said is 3.2 percent. Settlers council sources have said in the past that the actual growth rate in the area, including the number of people who move there, is 10 percent each year. Raz criticized the prime minister for making the settlements priority areas, thereby encouraging people to move there.

The Likud issued a statement calling the Peace Now counting expedition a "low-down gimmick" and comparing Peace Now's tactics to those used by the extremist Kahane Chai organization.

Accused Nazi collaborator takes witness stand in NY

A one-time Manhattan cab driver accused of helping the Nazis massacre Jews took the witness stand for the first time yesterday and denied knowing anything about mass murder.

Jack Reimer, 79, said he did not know about the persecutions because he was kept at a desk job in Nazi-occupied Poland. "We didn't know anything about it," he said.

Government lawyers say Reimer "trained" prisoners from Ukraine at the Trawniki camp and also worked in Warsaw while Germans destroyed the Jewish ghetto there.

Reimer, of Carmel, New York, was testifying at a civil trial in which the government is seeking to take away his US citizenship. Reimer came to the US in 1951. AP

The Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel (ICCI)

mourns the passing of

Dr. M. BERNARD RESNIKOFF
colleague and friend
mentor and teacher

Dr. Ron Kronish
Director

Mayer Gabay
Sr. Trudy Nabuurs
Co-chairpersons

We deeply mourn the passing of our beloved
father, grandfather and great-grandfather

HARAV YIRMIYAHU ALOY

of blessed memory,

the doyen of the S.A. Rabbinate,

who was brought to his eternal rest
on Tuesday, 19 Av 5758, August 11, 1998,
in Johannesburg.

Gourarie, Kuristak Families
Fax. 002-711-487-2036

With deep sorrow we announce
the passing of

ZVI (Peter) WERTHEIMER ז"ל

The funeral will take place Friday,
August 14, 1998
at 11 a.m. at the Kfar Vradim Cemetery.

Stef Wertheimer and family
Doris Ben Shahar and family
Avner and Sam Wertheimer, USA
and the entire family

High levels of toxic metals found in Mediterranean fish

By JUDY SIEGEL

Inordinately high levels of toxic heavy metals, including cadmium, mercury and lead, have been found by the Israel Consumer Council (ICC) in samples of fresh fish and shellfish from the Mediterranean Sea sold in the markets.

Frozen imported fish, and fish raised commercially in pools or caught in the Kinneret, are not affected.

While Technion toxicologist Prof. Shmuel Yannai said their marketing should be prohibited because frequent eating of such fish would pose harm to health, the Health Ministry has not yet taken such a step.

Dr. Rina Versano, who is in charge of dealing with food contamination in the Health Ministry's Food Service Division, said it will very soon launch a "major drive" to test fresh fish from the sea.

Because of limited resources, the ministry checks such fish only intermittently, and not on a regular basis, she said.

Versano praised the ICC for taking the initiative, noting that consumer organization involvement in such matters was "very helpful and increases public awareness."

"We have ongoing cooperation with the ICC. The Food Service Division has plenty of expertise, but too small a budget for ongoing tests of all types of food. The public is interested in the subject, and public pressure only helps us."

Eating a single fish containing the high levels of heavy metals found — ranging from 30% to 176% above the legal standard — would do no harm, said Versano.

But if one's steady diet is based on such fish, it could cause serious harm — especially to children, fetuses, the elderly and people with chronic diseases.

The ICC published its findings in the latest issue of its non-profit consumer magazine, *Baduk*, which goes on sale today.

Baduk stressed that a new, more demanding standard for contaminants in fish has been prepared by a special Health Ministry committee, which includes Yannai, but it isn't yet in effect because the relevant ministers — including health and agriculture — have not yet signed it.

Five samples of each type of fish and shellfish — locust, chiporra, farida, red flamida, barbonina and shrimp — were tested twice. The locust had 176% more cadmium than permitted, while the barbonina had 119% more.

The shrimps had very high lead and cadmium levels, but there is no government maximum standard of these contaminants for this kind of shellfish. Only the farida and red flamida were found to have metal concentrations below the maximum permitted level.

Mercury poisoning in enclosed seas like the Mediterranean is almost always due to industrial contamination.

Mercury can accumulate in the human body over a period of months, and large amounts can cause serious harm to the central nervous system, blindness, imbalance, loss of control on the motor nerves and genetic damage in fetuses.

Cadmium is very poisonous when it accumulates over several months in the liver, kidneys, spleen and various glands. It can also cause drastic increases in blood pressure and trigger the development of cancerous cells.

Lead can cause damage to the digestive system, the blood and the female reproductive system.

Versano said that her office had been planning a major test on fresh fish for some time, and that the effort is not connected to the *Baduk* findings.

After the survey, to be conducted on 50 samples, the ministry will consider whether it is necessary to prohibit marketing of certain types of fish.

Teen charged with manslaughter in stabbing

A 15-year-old boy from Ashdod was charged yesterday in Beersheba District Court with manslaughter in the stabbing death of 19-year-old Avraham Gatena at an Ashdod club two weeks ago.

The stabbing occurred during a fight between the two at the Mei Ami nightclub near the beach.

The prosecution asked that the accused be remanded until the end of legal proceedings, but Judge Revital Yaffe-Katz scheduled a hearing on the matter for next week, pending a report on the youth from the probation authorities.

Until then, the youth will remain in custody. *lit*

KENYA

Continued from Page 1

Police released the Somali, who holds an Australian passport, yesterday after checks showed he worked for the UN refugee agency and was en route from Sudan to a new posting in western Tanzania.

The Saudi Arabian ambassador in Dar es Salaam said one of the Sudanese suspects was an embassy employee who was at work at the time of the explosion.

"The day of the bombing he was at the office with us until 4 p.m.," Ambassador Sahad Mohammed told Reuters.

A previously unknown group calling itself The Islamic Army for the Liberation of Holy Places has claimed responsibility, but there has been no evidence to support the claim.

Douglas Davis adds:

In London, the latest issue of Foreign Report, being published today, reports that Osama bin-Laden, the Saudi Arabian millionaire suspected of involvement in the bombings, held a meeting with a senior officer of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards on February 15, at which they agreed to combine efforts against the US.

The timing and nature of the meeting raises suggestions about

complicity between bin-Laden and Iran in the planning and implementation of last Friday's attacks.

Quoting Middle East intelligence sources, Foreign Report writes:

"We do not know if the two men discussed or were aware of the carefully planned attacks on the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. But we have been told an agreement was reached."

The newsletter points out that the Revolutionary Guards are closely aligned with Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who opposes any rapprochement with Washington.

Bin-Laden and his Iranian interlocutor also reportedly agreed to aid Muslims in Bosnia and Kosovo.

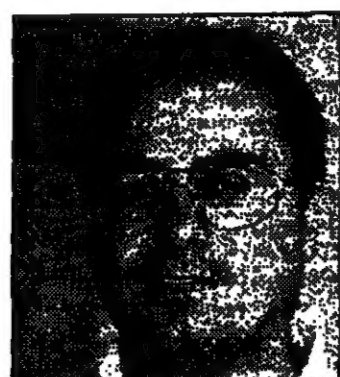
In addition, bin-Laden offered to pay the Revolutionary Guards \$30 million to train a group of Egyptian Islamic extremists to be sent to fight in Bosnia.

"We have also been told that the Revolutionary Guards officer agreed to train the Egyptians, who were subsequently sent to Bosnia," reported the newsletter.

The newsletter also reported that the Sudanese capital Khartoum has been the venue for meetings of Iranian, Palestinian and Egyptian Islamic extremist organizations in recent months.

صلى الله عليه وسلم

What they're saying about the budget controversy



Shalom: Inflation target must be raised

The 1999 inflation target must be raised, Science Minister Shalom Limor demanded yesterday. One of the cabinet's most outspoken critics of the Bank of Israel's monetary policy, Shalom called on the Treasury to raise its inflation target from four percent to 4.5 percent. Ensuring that inflation is no lower than 4% would prevent the central bank from strangling the economy, he said, adding that the bank's claims that Israel's standing in the world will be adversely affected if there is any fiscal expansion are nonsense.



Katsav calls for fiscal expansion

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav called on the cabinet to vote for an increase in the permitted budget deficit, to allow inflation to rise to as much as six percent. He also wanted to set a target for reducing unemployment.

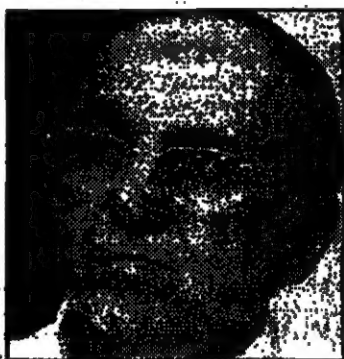
Katsav told his cabinet colleagues that an NIS 100 million addition to his ministry's budget next year would allow for a NIS 1 billion increase in tourism revenues.



Livnat demands jobless target

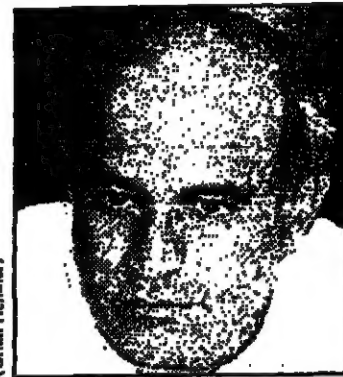
Communications Minister Limor Livnat expressed her anger at Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel and also demanded an eight percent unemployment target for next year.

Livnat said she will vote against the budget at the end of the month if there is no target and unless the Treasury presents a detailed plan for job creation during August. Unemployment will hover around 9-9.5% both this year and next, according to the Treasury.



Neeman: Budget deficit must stay intact

There will be no breach of the budget deficit target, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman responded to cabinet members who yesterday demanded extra spending for their ministries and the good of the economy. However, Neeman has committed to increasing the defense budget and to additional spending on infrastructure. He has still to explain where the money will come from to pay for these items.



Kahalani: Train obsolescence as police

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday called for his ministry's budget to be increased to take on an additional 2,000 police officers. These, he suggested, should be recruited from the ranks of the unemployed.

He also condemned the government for discussing the unemployment issue without coming up with concrete proposals for reducing the number of foreign workers.

Kahalani called for no pay increases in the upper echelons of the public sector.



Yishai: Budget will loose the election

Even if the budget is backed by the Knesset, the government could well lose the next election as a result of its approval, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai said during yesterday's cabinet session.

"The budget contains no solutions for the jobless," he said. Yishai spent most of the day pushing for the cabinet to accept his proposal for the National Insurance Institute to subsidize employers taking on new staff.

Bar-Illan denies Israel discounted bomb warning

David Bar-Illan, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's director of communications, yesterday denied a report Israel had advised US officials to treat with skepticism a warning by an intelligence source that the embassy in Nairobi might be the target of a bombing.

Bar-Illan described as "baseless" the report carried by *Ha'aretz*.

which said the warning came shortly before the synchronized bombing attacks outside the US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania on Friday.

"We have looked into all the exchanges between Israel and America and found nothing of the sort. It's a baseless story," Bar-Illan said. AP

CORRECTION
Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon does not smoke cigars, contrary to information provided by Deputy Health Minister Shlomo Benizri, which was published yesterday.

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Netanyahu: National unity government not on the agenda

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Channel 1 last night that he and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak had explored the possibility of forming a joint government, but that "in practical terms I would say the subject is not on the agenda."

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai also said yesterday that he objects to forming a national unity government, at least at present.

"An elected government should fulfill its duty and rule for as long as it can function. To the best of my understanding this government can function," Mordechai said.

Asked if he would be willing to give up his position, he said, "The position of defense minister is filled for a very long time."

The reports of the secret assignments between Netanyahu and Barak about a unity government aroused concern among a number of Likud ministers, including Mordechai.

Mordechai, who would have to give up his position if a unity government is formed and Barak becomes vice-premier and defense minister, met with Netanyahu for hours at a time over the last two days.

Both Netanyahu's and Mordechai's people denied the meetings had anything to do

with a unity government and rather focused on state and security affairs.

Netanyahu confirmed in the television interview that he and Barak had discussed the possibility, but only in the context of Netanyahu's efforts to muster as wide a majority as possible behind his political moves.

The meetings between Barak and Netanyahu aroused unease in Labor as well. MKs Yossi Beilin and Hagai Merom, the leading opponents of a unity government, advised Barak's office that they have called a consultation of several MKs this afternoon aimed at preventing a unity government and advancing the elections.

Another obstacle was placed in the way of a unity government yesterday as MK Hanan Porat, chairman of the Knesset Constitution and Law Committee, strongly objected to changing the Basic Law: Government in this term.

Porat's objection followed Barak's demands for amendments to the law, as conditions to Labor's joining a unity government.

"The voter didn't elect two prime ministers, but one," said Porat. "Changing the rules in mid-term would make a mockery of the law, on the basis of which the present government and prime minister were elected."

Arafat calls for international pressure on Israel

By BRENDAN BOYLE

PRETORIA (Reuters) — Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, winding up a visit to South Africa, urged the US and Europe yesterday to impose real and effective economic sanctions against the Netanyahu government.

"We need the same kind of international pressure that was put on the apartheid regime in its last years. No one can deny the role that international economic sanctions played against the apartheid regime in forcing that regime... to reach a permanent settlement," Arafat told the South African Institute of International Affairs.

"Time is running out," Arafat said in the final speech of his three-day visit which has included meetings with President Nelson Mandela and his heir apparent Thabo Mbeki.

"What is needed is real and effective pressure on the Israeli government by the American administration, European Union and international communities," Arafat said.

"We look forward to the day when the international community will impose real and effective pressure on the Israeli government as long as this government continues its current policies, insisting on being stubborn and refusing to comply with signed international agreements."

"The victory of the extremists in Israel and the taking over by Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu in 1996 have led to a freeze in the negotiations process. All negotiation tracks have broken down."

Arafat reiterated his warning that if the peace process is not completed on schedule in May next year, his government would

declare "the establishment of the Palestinian Arab state on the Palestinian lands occupied in 1967."

Speaking earlier to South Africa's parliament in Cape Town, Arafat said the Palestinians had fulfilled their obligations, but that Israel had turned its back on peace deals struck in Oslo and Madrid.

Arafat, who entered the parliamentary chamber to a standing ovation, heaped praise on Mandela and underlined the strong links between the ruling African National Congress and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"Today, President Mandela, as he was yesterday and as he will be in the future, symbolizes all ethical, political and cultural values. The values that all people fight for," he said.

Liat Collins adds: Several ministers are reportedly planning to meet today to discuss the negotiations with the Palestinians, although no formal cabinet meeting is scheduled.

Talks on the further redeployment have basically come to a halt after no progress was made in discussions last week. The Palestinians are refusing to come to further meetings and the US is not prepared to send an envoy to the region to mediate at this stage.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky yesterday met with Sharansky's Jordanian counterpart, Hani Mulki who brought a letter from Crown Prince Hassan expressing Jordan's hope for progress in the talks with the Palestinians.

The prince also wrote that he hopes ways can be found to further Jordanian-Israeli trade ties.



Capital security
Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki makes a point to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday on a tour of the Old City. The visit was part of the 'Forum on the Territories,' a weekly security forum which focused yesterday on Jerusalem's security needs and also included Minister of Internal Security Avigdor Kahalani, GSS head Ami Ayalon, and Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz. They discussed the Old City's unique security needs as well as Palestinian Police operations in Jerusalem. (Text: Amy Klein; photos: Brian Hendler)

Mofaz to check into 'Soujud fiasco' himself

By DAVID RUDGE

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz is expected to make his own inquiries today into what has been dubbed the "Soujud fiasco," which occurred Sunday night when a Hizbullah gunman penetrated an outpost in the security zone and managed to escape alive.

The Northern Command investigation into the incident is continuing. OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazi questioned the soldiers and officers involved yesterday.

The findings of the inquiry are to be submitted to Mofaz, along with any recommendations for further action, and some of the details are expected to be made public.

Hizbullah, meanwhile, is exploiting the incident for propaganda purposes.

The Manar television station owned and run by Hizbullah maintained in a recent broadcast that the infiltration of the Soujud outpost by one of its gunmen "clearly highlights the capabilities, training and execution of the resistance's fighters compared to the retreat of the Zionist soldiers."

"Even the Israeli press described the performance of the IDF paratroopers as shameful and scandalous," a Hizbullah official said in the broadcast.

The official said that while speculation continued in Israel over whether the aim of the Hizbullah operation was to kidnap a soldier or steal advanced equipment, the only ones who

knew the full truth were the "resistance fighters."

"The penetration of the position by the Hizbullah fighter has shown one thing and that is the sheer failure of the Israeli forces to prevent such an incident," said the official.

In an unrelated development, both Israel and Lebanon yesterday expressed their willingness to adhere more fully to the Grapes of Wrath understandings.

The statement was issued at the end of a meeting of the monitoring group, which discussed two complaints from each side over recent breaches of the understandings that were reached at the end of Operation Grapes of Wrath in April 1996.

NEWS in brief

Palestinians investigate death of prisoner
A senior Palestinian intelligence official vowed yesterday to punish any officers found to have been involved in the death of a Palestinian whose relatives say he was tortured in detention.

Walid Mahmoud Qawasma, 45, who had spent 10 days in a general intelligence service jail in Jericho, died earlier this week during a 50-km journey to a hospital in Nablus.

General Intelligence Service director Amin Hindi said that officers suspected of involvement in the case had been handed over to the military attorney general, who is investigating the issue on orders from Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"The death of Walid Qawasma has affected me badly," Hindi said in the statement, that was published on the front page of the daily newspaper *Al-Quds*.

"We will not protect anyone who is proven to have been involved," he said. *Reuters*

More haredi protests at Jerusalem's Road No. 1
Hundreds of haredim disrupted work at Road No. 1 in Jerusalem's Pisgat Ze'ev yesterday, vandalizing tractors and taunting archeologists who worked to remove ancient graves at the site and move them to another site nearby.

The protesters began praying near the graves, which they believe belong to Jews. But the protest quickly turned ugly when the demonstrators called archeologists "Nazis" and "grave robbers." Police later removed the protesters from the site.

Earlier this week, ceramic lamps adorned by crosses were found at the site, backing the claim by the Antiquities Authority that the site contains Christian, and not Jewish, graves. *AP*

Mekorot workers protest reorganization
Dozens of workers from Mekorot, the national water company, yesterday barred its executives from entering their office building in Tel Aviv.

The workers are protesting against what they view as the management's refusal to combat Treasury plans for organizational changes, including the involvement of private firms.

Meanwhile, Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz invited Mekorot board chairman Doron Gruper and Mekorot union leader Meir Alezra for a meeting in a bid to prevent a further deterioration in relations. *Itim*

Arrests made in connection with Yitzhar attack
Two Palestinians have been arrested by Israel in connection with the shooting deaths of Shlomo Liebman and Harel Bin-Nun at Yitzhar last week, relatives said yesterday.

The IDF Spokesman's office said it could not immediately provide information on the arrests.

Saber Nassar, a 20-year-old nursing student, and Ahmed Kat, a 28-year-old teacher, were arrested late Tuesday night in their village of Medama, family members said. *AP*

Gov't wants to expedite Swiss fund payments

By LIAT COLLINS

The government is prepared to reach an immediate settlement with Holocaust victims' groups on the distribution of monies from a Swiss fund for needy survivors, but is insisting that any distribution body be supervised by the state comptroller.

Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs, stressed that this does not represent a settlement with the Swiss government, but refers to the humanitarian fund set up by Swiss banks and industries of nearly \$200 million to be distributed to survivors around the world.

Some \$58m-\$59m, will be distributed here, Brown said, in an interview on Israel Radio's English news.

He said he hopes to overcome the bureaucratic problems as quickly as possible so that needy survivors can get their money. He said the same criteria that are being used in the US and eastern Europe will probably be used here.

He also said the government is "very much in favor of establishing a public committee staffed by people who are Holocaust survivors and have had the experience to help us create the criteria which are most just."

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Putting the visitors to work

New Yorkers Abbie Tuffs (center) and Sarah Hecht, join forces with Jerusalemite Shahrar Yadetzkin yesterday to paint a mural during an activity of the "Beit New York-Jerusalem" project in the capital's Katamon neighborhood. The project, sponsored by UJA Federation of New York, the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Municipality of Jerusalem, aims to promote personal contacts between residents of the two cities.

(Iman Harnet)

Left to launch Arutz 7 style pirate radio station

By GIL HOFFMAN

The left-wing needs to have its own ideological platform, Meretz MK Dedi Zucker said yesterday, defending plans to launch a pirate radio station as an answer to the right-wing Arutz 7.

"People on the Left need to have their own place where they can say what they want, just like any other community," Zucker said yesterday.

A number of personalities identified with Labor and Meretz met Tuesday in Labor MK Haim Ramon's office to discuss setting up the station. Television personality Yaron London was chosen to plan the station's content.

Zucker said the station, which is due to start broadcasting in a few weeks, is necessary since, in his estimation, the Left has been given significantly less air time on Israel Radio and Army Radio

since Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu was elected.

The station will be broadcast from a ship in the Mediterranean, much like Arutz 7. Zucker said the fact that Arutz 7 has not been closed down and that it has the support of Netanyahu and Communications Minister Limor Livnat proves that pirate stations are permitted. Therefore, he sees no problem with setting up another.

Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein told Ma'ariv in a recent interview that, on the contrary, police have taken steps against 30 pirate stations in the last few months.

Former Meretz leader Shulamit Aloni said she still believes every pirate radio station should be shut down. But she said that if Arutz 7 - which she termed "a symbol of rebellion against the government" - is legalized, then the left-wing should make "an appropriate

Zionist response."

Dismissing statements by Netanyahu that the Israeli media has a left-wing bias, Aloni said the prime minister and his spokesman control the airwaves.

Arutz 7 technical manager Yoel Tzur, whose station has been attacked by left-wing critics since its inception, said of the left-wing project: "I wish them the best of luck. I don't think they realize how difficult it is to run a station like this."

Itim adds: Police raided offices belonging to Arutz 7 in Ramat Gan yesterday. The step came in response to a request by the State Attorney's Office, which is seeking to finish up the collection of evidence for the investigation against the pirate station.

The police are recommending that indictments be issued against the station's managers and workers.

Aloni seeks to block Sarid bid for PM

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Meretz MK Ran Cohen announced yesterday that the party should field its leader, Yossi Sarid, as the left-wing's candidate for prime minister.

He called for the move in light of contacts between Labor leader Ehud Barak and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, which some observers view as steps towards a national unity government.

The initiative drew an immediate objection from former Meretz leader Shulamit Aloni, who said Meretz should support Barak so that he gets the maximum number of votes in elections, rather than engage in a protest action based on speculation.

Cohen told a Meretz gathering that Netanyahu, Barak and Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo would all be aiming for the centrist vote. "Who will represent the secular majority who wants peace, the majority which is sick of religious coercion?" he asked.

Palestinian denies plot to assassinate US Attorney General

By JEFFREY GOLD

NEWARK, NJ (AP) - A broken marriage is under scrutiny by an immigration judge considering whether a Palestinian living in New Jersey plotted to murder US Attorney General Janet Reno.

The accused, Hany Mahmoud Kiardeeen, faces deportation and testified Tuesday that such allegations are a "total fabrication." He did not speculate as to the identity of the FBI's confidential informants but told the judge that his ex-wife had him arrested six times on domestic violence and child abuse charges, all of which were dismissed.

Kiardeeen, manager of an electronics store in Passaic, insisted he is not a political or religious fanatic. He also challenged the evidence against him, saying he was not living in the town of Nutley a week

before the bombing of New York City's World Trade Center, when FBI informants say he let a terrorist who discussed the bombing plan stay at his home.

The 1993 bombing killed six people.

Non-classified FBI summaries of secret evidence against Kiardeeen state that he is a suspected member of an unnamed terrorist organization and assert that Kiardeeen has made a "credible threat" against Reno's life.

Kiardeeen "expressed a desire to murder Attorney General Janet Reno for her role in the conviction of those responsible for the bombing of the World Trade Center," a summary said.

The FBI has not brought any charges against Kiardeeen, 30, who has been in the United States since leaving Gaza City in the Gaza Strip eight years ago.

He was arrested by the Immigration and Naturalization Service in March and accused of overstaying his student visa. He is now a federal prisoner being held at the Mercer County Jail.

Kiardeeen is seeking political asylum, asserting, "If I get deported under these conditions, I'm going to jail there. I'm facing jail and torture."

The US State Department, however, wrote Immigration Judge Daniel Meisner on Friday that unless Kiardeeen engaged in "activity that would cause the authorities to suspect an affiliation with terrorism after his return to Gaza, it is our view that the authorities (there) would not likely mistreat him." Meisner is scheduled to hear more testimony this week, including from Kiardeeen's former wife, Amal Kiardeeen.



Educator dies in fire

Hebrew University Prof. Leah Adar died late Tuesday night in a fire in her apartment, in the capital's Rehavia neighborhood, which started when she apparently fell asleep smoking a cigarette, fire investigators said. Born in Berlin in 1922, Adar came to Jerusalem in 1925 and was educated at the Hebrew University, where she eventually headed the education department and the School of Education. (Hebrew University)

Palestinians protest US ruling on 'Jerusalem, Israel'

By AMY KLEIN

A group of Palestinians demonstrated outside the US Consulate in eastern Jerusalem yesterday to protest against the US Congress's recent approval of a foreign aid bill provision stating that official references to Jerusalem must say "Jerusalem, Israel."

The bill passed in the house over two weeks ago, but still has to be approved by the Senate, which is in recess until September. A provision in the bill states that all US documents referring to Jerusalem and all US passports issued in Jerusalem must say "Jerusalem, Israel."

Palestinian Legislative Council member Abu Hashem Zirar said that Congress's position on Jerusalem will ruin the peace process. "America's decision is contrary to all international agreements," he said. "The atmosphere of the whole peace process is based on [those] international agreements."

The PLC intends to take a formal position against this decision, he said.

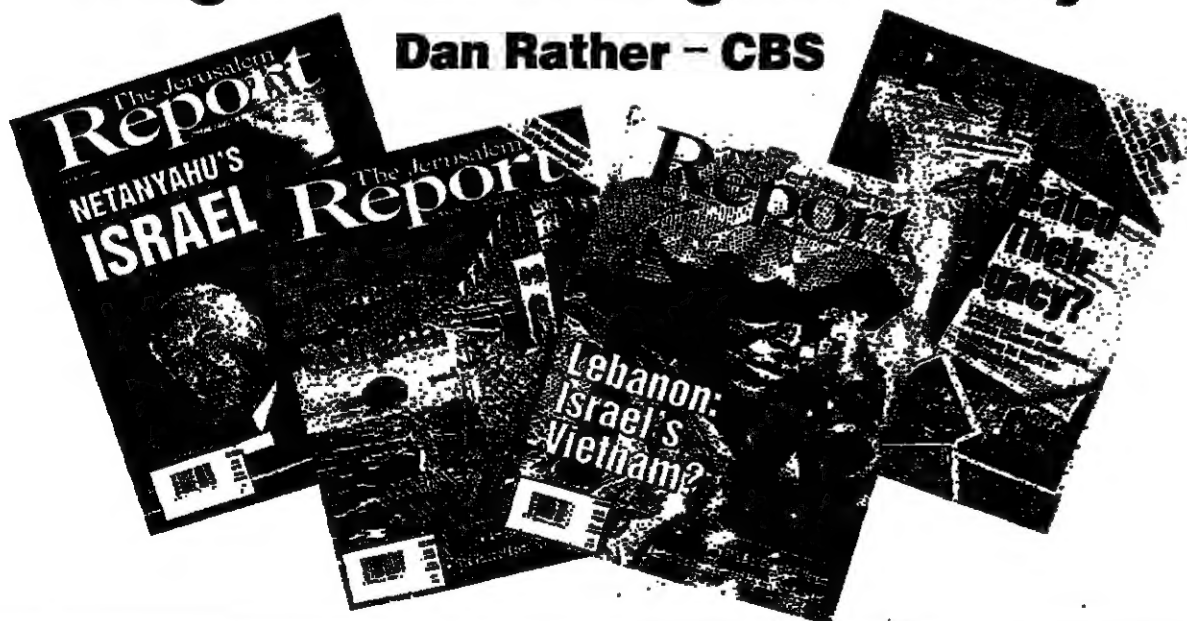
Some 40 protesters demonstrated peacefully outside the consulate. They held signs in English and Arabic which read, "We condemn the American Congress's decision about Jerusalem," and "Jerusalem, the capital of the independent Palestinian State."

Jerusalem Mufti Sabri Elkrina said Congress should rethink its decision and that America is biased toward Israel. "America takes Israel's side on everything, and they will give in to all of Israel's demands," Elkrina said.

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סוכנת האהל

US embassies tighten security

By EILEEN ALT POWELL

CAIRO (AP) — US diplomats who work in outlying buildings have been moved into the fortified embassy compound in Cairo. New checkpoints have appeared around the American Embassy in Kuwait. At least four US diplomatic missions have temporarily closed down.

The heightened security — including some steps not made public — followed last Friday's twin bombings of the US embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and a State Department warning Tuesday that others were at risk.

In most cases, embassy officials declined to discuss specifics of upgraded security activities — for security reasons.

"We don't think it's appropriate to disclose any security arrangements, whether we have or have not taken them," said Bill Blaine,

spokesman for the US Embassy in Bahrain.

Still, the Bahrain embassy updated its phone-in hot line service for Americans, urging them to stay vigilant following the East African bombings.

On Tuesday, the State Department said it had "received information that there may be a threat to US interests in Egypt, Malaysia, and Yemen."

The response in Egypt was "to temporarily relocate some staff from peripheral US government facilities," a statement from the embassy said.

Embassy spokesman David Ballard said this involved diplomats and Egyptian employees who worked with the US Agency for International Development at a building several blocks away from the US Embassy.

Most were moved into the embassy compound, which is surrounded by a high stone wall and

guarded by US Marines and Egyptian security forces.

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the US Embassy has suspended public operations since Monday and shut down a gas station adjacent to the embassy to prevent it from being used by a would-be attacker.

The American Embassy in the Yemen capital Sana'a also was closed yesterday. Yemen military jeeps were seen patrolling the area around the embassy, and extra guards were posted at the perimeter.

In Kuwait, the embassy closed to the public on Sunday while diplomats reviewed security procedures, then reopened with new checkpoints jointly manned by Kuwaiti and American security officers. The embassy stands alone on a large lot surrounded by a high wall and concrete barriers.

The US Embassy in Riyadh yesterday issued a statement saying diplomats and US military personnel stationed in Saudi Arabia were

"making improvements and changes wherever possible to lessen their vulnerabilities."

The statement also urged Americans "to exercise caution in their daily work habits and to be continually aware of their surroundings." A similar statement was issued by the US Embassy in Beirut, where extremists car-bombed embassies in 1983 and 1984.

"We are coordinating with the Lebanese government on security issues," said spokeswoman Maha Hamdan. "We are in a state of alert, but we can't go into details concerning security measures."

Assistant Secretary of State Patrick Kennedy said Tuesday that about half a dozen embassies suspended operations after the bombing, but he declined to name them.

In addition to Malaysia and Yemen, they appeared to include those in Kampala, Uganda, which has been closed since Monday,

and in Sudan.

In the Sudanese capital Khartoum, the gates of the US Embassy were chained and locked, but uniformed Sudanese police still stand watch outside. American diplomats were pulled out of Sudan in January 1996, when Washington said it couldn't guarantee their security. They periodically return from offices in Nairobi and Cairo to provide consular and other services.

The US Embassy in Swaziland was evacuated for several hours Tuesday after a phoned bomb threat. Sniffer dogs searched the embassy and a nearby building housing embassy offices and found nothing, an American spokeswoman said.

Liat Collins adds:

In Tel Aviv, US Embassy spokesman Larry Schwartz said the embassy in Israel is taking "the usual security precautions," but would not elaborate.

NEWS

in brief

Police raid brothels in Haifa and suburbs

Police raided 14 brothels in the Haifa and its seaside suburbs early yesterday morning and closed them down. During the crackdown, some 55 women suspected of working as prostitutes were arrested. Police said that nearly half of them were found to be staying in the country illegally and they would be deported. Police also arrested 19 men on suspicion of running the brothels. The suspects were each fined NIS 5,000 by the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry for every prostitute who worked for them.

David Rudge

Licensing offices close to revamp computers

Licensing offices across the country will be closed to the public today beginning at 5:30 p.m. and will reopen Monday morning, after adjustments are made to the Transportation Ministry's computer systems in advance of the year 2000.

During the closure, it will also not be possible to transfer ownership of cars at post office branches.

Itim

Dog pound accused of mistreating animals

Animals being held in the Nahariya municipality dog pound have been suffering from neglect and disease according to the Environment Ministry and Agriculture Ministry.

Following complaints by concerned citizens, the Agriculture Ministry's district veterinarian visited the pound and determined the animals are being held without sufficient food or treatment. Environment Ministry Director General Nehama Ronen has ordered the dogs be transferred to the shelter of the Haifa Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The ministry has also filed a police complaint against the city citing violations of the Anti-Cruelty to Animals Law.

Nahariya municipal spokesman David Tintzi said in response the dogs are strays which have been collected from the streets to prevent a public health risk. He said they are fed once a day and examined daily by the municipal veterinarian and no special signs of disease had been found. The spokesman said the city pound does not put down animals but tries to find them new homes.

Liat Collins

Doctors free pinched nerve of pregnant woman

A woman, eight months pregnant, who had suddenly suffered a slipped spinal disk that paralyzed her left leg, was successfully operated on at Haifa's Bnai Zion Hospital. The 28-year-old Haifa woman had also lost control of her defecation and urination. A team that examined her found it impossible to lay her on her stomach because of the pregnancy; a special silicone support was built to allow her to lie on her back in the operating room. While monitoring the fetus continuously, Dr. Yehiel Gofried and Dr. Khaled Aslan performed a complicated surgical procedure, freeing her pinched nerves and preventing irreversible damage.

Judy Siegel

Doctors: Keep cosmetics out of kids' reach

A two-year-old girl from eastern Jerusalem was recently treated for mercury poisoning she suffered after eating a cosmetic preparation containing mercury salts. Bikur Holim Hospital doctors pumped her stomach, and she was given a special drug that neutralizes mercury, causing it to be eliminated from the body. The girl has returned home and is feeling well. Doctors said the cosmetic is very toxic when consumed and can be fatal.

Judy Siegel

Clalit health fund's union calls plans to strike

By JUDY SIEGEL

Kupat Holim Clalit's union yesterday called off a strike by its 30,000 workers that was planned for today.

The step came after management gave firm promises that the remaining unpaid quarter of the July salaries owed to staffers will be paid by Sunday.

The union had threatened to run all Clalit hospitals and community clinics on a reduced Shabbat schedule beginning today, until workers received the rest of their wages.

The Knesset Finance Committee's approval Tuesday of a measure to levy direct fees for visiting medical specialists and outpatient clinics continued to spark controversy yesterday. The measure will also hike payments for prescription drugs.

The health funds argued that the NIS 550 million in grants and advance payments they would get from the government as a result of the committee's vote would not solve their financial problems.

The Israel Consumer Council, which operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, said yesterday that it opposed the direct-fees scheme before its passage, and called on the Treasury and Finance Ministry not to implement it.

Instead, it endorses higher tobacco taxes, raising the income ceiling that determines health taxes, and an increase in the health tax rate as a last resort.

Asked whether it would defend consumers who refuse or are unable to pay fees for visiting a specialist, since the National Health Insurance Law bars withholding public health care to those who don't pay for it, the ICC said it is working in consultation with ZVI, the roof organization of health service consumers, which is considering the issue.

Maccabi health fund spokeswoman Sarit Greenberg said that its physician specialists already collect NIS 10 fees and primary physicians NIS 5 from members per quarter, and they pocket the money.



Breaking camp
Segev Shinaghi, from the Shuyu day camp in Ashdod, accepts a gift yesterday from Sara Netanyahu, at the annual end-of-session celebration held by the CIS immigrant children's camps at the Jerusalem International Convention Center.

Police to probe A-Sanaa for incitement

By LIAT COLLINS and Itim

Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein ordered police yesterday to open an investigation into MK Taleb A-Sanaa's call to avenge the death of a Beduin man allegedly shot by a Nature Protection and National Parks Authority warden last week.

Rubinstein's decision follows numerous calls for A-Sanaa, of the Democratic Arab Party, to be probed on suspicion of inciting murder, Itim reported.

Agriculture and Environment Minister and Tzomet Party leader Raphael Eitan demanded that A-Sanaa's parliamentary immunity be lifted so he can face criminal charges.

At a press conference on Tuesday, A-Sanaa said, "We have our own laws. In the Beduin tradition there is a concept of revenge and the murderer pays with his life. No Beduin in the Negev will allow his blood to be spilled with impunity."

Meretz MK Amnon Rubinstein said the remarks "not only harm the rule of law and are incitement to kill, but also severely harm Israeli Arabs — the majority of whom want to live in a country in which there is the rule of law, equality, and full rights. The competition between a number of MKs to see who can make the most extreme statement harms all those who want Jewish-Arab coexistence."

National Religious Party director-general Zevulun Orlev said A-Sanaa's comments had cast a stain on the whole Beduin community, although he had spoken "out of

political considerations and hatred for the State of Israel."

Orlev said the country should not ignore such incitement and called on the leaders of the Beduin community to distance it from A-Sanaa.

Meanwhile, MK Benny Elon (Molodet) has sent a letter to Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon and the head of police investigations in Jerusalem, Asst.-Cmdr. Shaul Naim, with the translated text of a newspaper interview with MK Salim (Hadash), published last week, in which Salim said he would not apologize for his public call for the murder of Arabs who sell land to Jews.

Doctor warns public not to visit Thai island for fear of catching 'dengue fever'

By JUDY SIEGEL

An infectious disease expert at Haifa's Bnai Zion Hospital has urged Israelis not to visit the Ko Phangan Island in Thailand, because it is infested with mosquitoes that transmit dengue fever, a potentially fatal tropical disease.

There is no vaccine available against it.

Dr. Yisrael Potasman, head of the hospital's infectious diseases unit, said that a month ago, a 24-

year-old Israeli who returned home with the infection committed suicide after becoming depressed over his disease.

Ko Phangan island has become very popular in recent years among Israeli backpackers. Potasman said that during the last year, 45 other Israelis contracted dengue fever. Its symptoms are a high fever, chills, pain all over the body, a rash beginning on the arms and legs, headaches and sometimes depression.

Three backpackers were treated at Bnai Zion, and fortunately, all recovered in two weeks.

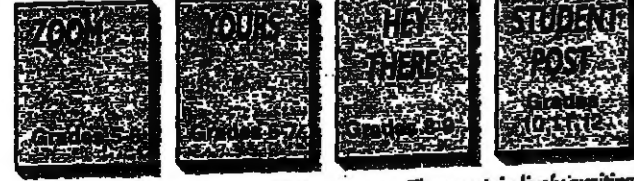
Sometimes, victims experience blood clotting problems, which explains its other name, hemorrhagic fever. The incubation period is between three days and two weeks. The viral disease is spread by a bite from the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, and occurs mainly in tropical Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, especially during the rainy season, mosquitoes.

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ISRAEL AIRPORTS AUTHORITY **BEN GURION 2000 PROJECT**

Public Tender No. C4020050
Energy Center Mechanical Contract

The Israel Airports Authority (IAA) hereby requests Proposals from qualified Offerors meeting the below listed Pre-Conditions for the Construction of the Energy Center Mechanical Contract for the Ben Gurion 2000 Project. The Work of this Contract generally includes performing and managing cooling and heating plants, piping, erection of external storage tank, fuel system, plumbing systems, integration of systems into central energy management and building control systems and coordination of and with other contractors on Site.

Preliminary Mandatory Requirements: This list summarizes the Pre-Conditions for an Offeror's Proposal to be Considered by the IAA. Only the complete language of the Pre-Conditions as stated in the RFP is binding. This text may be obtained by written request, submitted on company letterhead, to the PMF (see number stated below).

- Offeror shall be registered under Classification Group B, Branch 170, type 5 (Unlimited) under the State of Israel Registration of Contractors for Construction Works, (Classification of Registered Contractors) 1988. A foreign Offeror shall comply with requirements of Exhibit A, Part II of the RFP.
- Offeror's minimum average annual revenue in each of the last three (3) years was not less than the equivalent of twelve million U.S. dollars (\$12 million).
- Offeror's records must indicate, for each of the last three (3) years, the cost paid directly for labor for at least sixty (60) persons (annual average).
- Offeror has not less than five (5) years of experience in construction of central heating and cooling plants; and
- Offeror has constructed and completed at least two (2) central plants of a minimum of 2,000 tons chiller capacity, including 1,000 ton units. All such projects must have been fully integrated to a central building management control system, and have been completed within the last five (5) years.
- For each of the above projects, the scope of the contract must have included responsibility for the construction of the chilled water plant, boiler plant, large diameter piping (including 10 inch minimum diameter), and the management and coordination of equipment installation, piping, thermal insulation and ductwork.
- Offeror or Sub-Contractor, must have completed at least two (2) above ground, insulated, fuel oil or water storage tanks, 3,500 cubic meters capacity, within the last five (5) years.
- Offeror shall meet the staffing and personnel experience requirements specified in the RFP, Exhibit A.
- Offeror shall meet the registration requirements for a legal entity stated in the RFP, Exhibit A.
- Offeror shall meet the VAT and Israeli Tax Authorities' registration requirements stated in the RFP, Exhibit A.
- Offeror shall provide an unconditional Bank Guarantee in the amount of Three million (3 million) New Israeli Shekels (NIS), valid for a minimum of ninety (90) days from the Proposal Submission Date, as specified in the RFP, Exhibit E.
- Joint Ventures are allowed to participate in the Tender in accordance with the conditions stated in the RFP, Part B, Section 2, Exhibit A.
- Offeror, if a foreign entity, shall additionally provide a Commercial Cooperation Undertaking Agreement.

Additional Preliminary Requirements: Participation in the Tender Process is subject to the Offeror's satisfying All Preliminary Requirements as detailed in the Mandatory Tender Regulations (1993), Clause 6 (a), (1), (2) and (3).

Proposal Documents: Tender Documents may be purchased until the Proposal Submission Date for the non-refundable amount of Thirteen thousand New Israeli Shekels (13,000 NIS), including VAT.

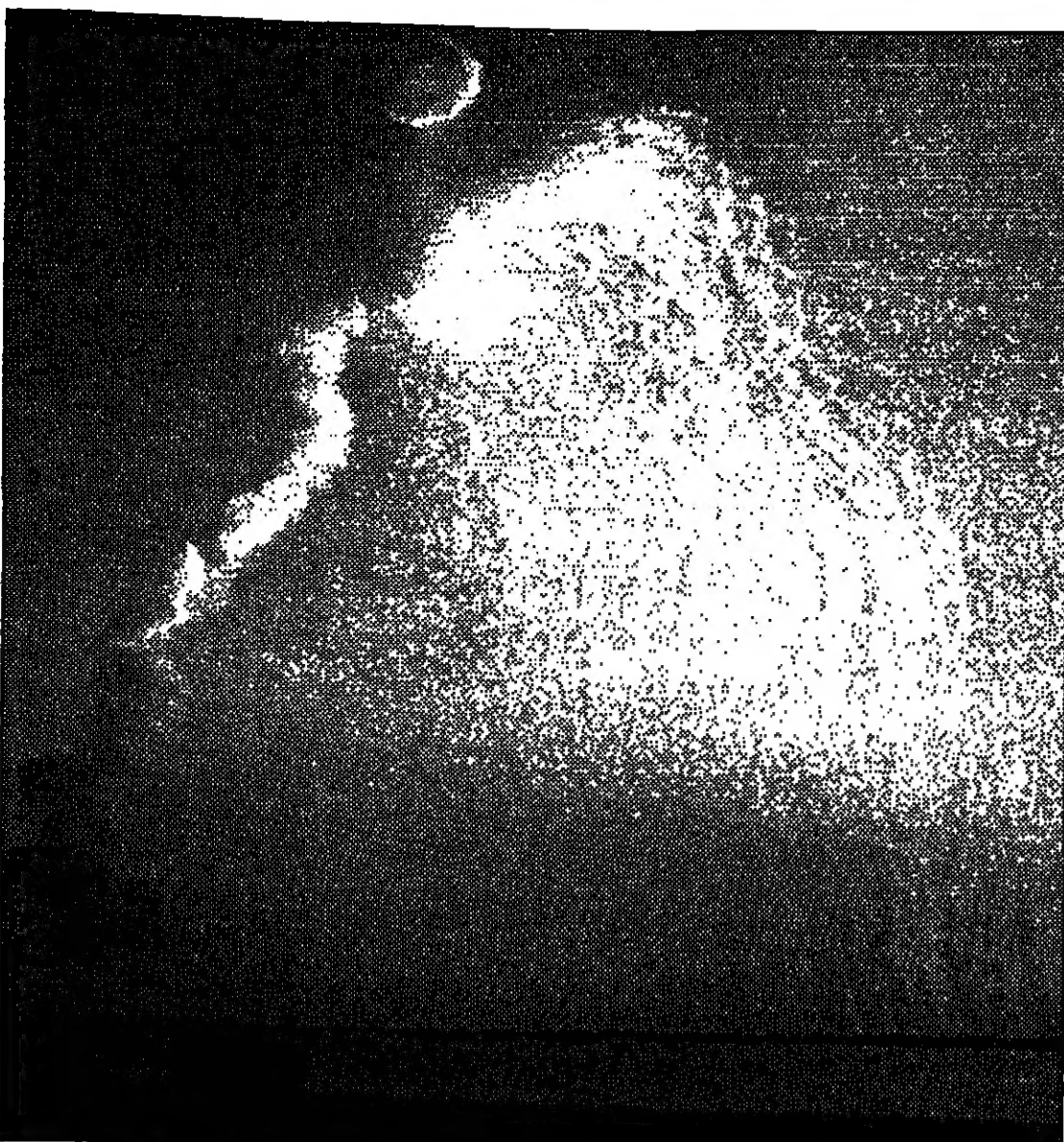
Tender Documents are available from the Project Management Firm (PMF) Project Office located at Ben Gurion International Airport starting August 13, 1998 between the hours of 09:00 and 12:00, business days (Sunday through Thursday). Interested Offerors must contact the PMF Contract Administrator, Mr. Zvi Pomer Cohn at telephone number: 973-3-977-4456 (fax: 973-3-971-2956) a minimum of forty eight (48) hours in advance to arrange Site access. Interested parties may preview the Tender Documents prior to their purchase.

All qualifying Proposals shall be delivered in sealed envelopes/packages, no later than 10:00 hours local time on or before September 15, 1998 to the appropriate tender box located in the Archive of the Airports Authority, Main Office, 2nd Floor, Room 113, Ben Gurion International Airport, Israel.

A Pre-Proposal conference will be held at the Ben Gurion 2000 Project site Offices on August 27, 1998 at 14:00 to clarify provisions in the RFP documents, to summarize and present the Project and to respond to written questions posed by Offerors. Offerors are strongly encouraged to attend, but participation is not mandatory. Site access must be arranged in advance as stated in the RFP.

The IAA is not bound to accept the lowest Proposal or any Proposal whatsoever.

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A Titan rocket - which together with its spy satellite is worth an estimated \$1 billion - turns into debris after launch yesterday at Cape Canaveral.

US Titan spy rocket explodes seconds after liftoff

By DUFFIN MCGEE

CAPE CANAVERAL, FL (Reuters) - A US Air Force Titan 4A rocket exploded in flames less than a minute after blastoff from Cape Canaveral yesterday, the air force said.

The Lockheed Martin Corp.-built rocket, which blasted off at 7:30 a.m. EDT, was carrying a top-secret satellite for the US National Reconnaissance Office, said an air force launch commentator.

"Oh no," said the commentator about 40 seconds after liftoff, as it appeared to go wrong.

About a minute later, the commentator came on again and said, "At this time it appears we have had a major malfunction of the

vehicle. We have had an explosion."

Witnesses said the rocket was off the ground when it exploded in a blast of light and smoke, reminding observers of a Delta rocket that exploded shortly after launch in January 1997. Debris was seen falling to the ground.

Reporters and photographers were evacuated from the press site several kilometers from the launch pad. But employees and their families watching from nearby were not escorted from the viewing area.

There was no information on the cause of the explosion of the unmanned rocket.

Space analysts have said they believe the rocket was carrying an eavesdropping satellite that would

have listened in on military and government communications in global hotspots such as the Middle East, India and Pakistan, and China.

The rocket and the satellite, reportedly code-named Vortex, combined were believed to have cost about \$1 billion.

The satellite was designed and built by the US National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), the air force said. A similar satellite was launched in May on another Titan rocket the air force launched this year.

The Titan 4A that blew up yesterday was the last of that particular model scheduled for launch. The air force introduced an improved version of the rocket last year.

330 people dead or missing

South Korea reels from flash floods, mudslides

SEOUL, Aug 12 (Reuters) - Flash floods and mudslides in South Korea have left 330 people dead or missing and caused at least \$283 million in damage, the national disaster agency said yesterday as rain returned to the southeast.

Record rains over the Korean peninsula in the first 10 days of this month triggered flash floods and mudslides in this hilly country that killed 255 people and left another 75 missing and feared dead, the agency said.

Officials held out little hope many of the survivors would be found.

The rain-induced disasters have left 140,000 people homeless and damaged or destroyed 1,500 homes, 1,125 roads and bridges, and 187 sections of rail lines, the

National Disaster Prevention Countermeasures Headquarters said in a statement.

Some 7,300 graves were washed away and 5,000 others partly damaged in the northern areas, it said.

Heavy rains returned yesterday, with the southeast bearing the brunt of what the local media is calling the "guerrilla rains", because the storms have been unpredictable during what should be the dry part of the Korean summer.

Weather authorities issued heavy rain warnings for most of the peninsula. They said a few southeastern and central areas had already received up to 490 mm of rain overnight on Tuesday and yesterday.

"Five more people in the Kyungbuk (southeastern) and

Chungchong (central) areas were reported dead from the latest rains," a disaster official said.

Some 20,000 civilians were evacuated to the safety of makeshift shelters, local media said.

Floods and mudslides hit the south before heavy rain spread the chaos to Seoul and further north last week.

Seoul and northern regions have received 70 to 80 percent of their annual average rainfall just in the first 10 days of August, the meteorological office said.

The UN Command said it would repatriate the body of a North Korean soldier, a victim of recent floods around the militarized border between North and South Korea.

The command, which represents

South Korean and US forces in the country, said the body was found in the Pukhan River near the border with the North on July 31. It would be repatriated at the border village of Panmunjom today.

South Korea's unification ministry said North Korea had not been hit as hard by the recent heavy rains over the peninsula.

Some 47,000 hectares of farmland - mostly rice fields - were flooded while 36 roads and three railway lines remained closed, the disaster headquarters said.

A central Bank of Korea official said the damage to factories and farmland could cause a steeper drop in the gross domestic product this year than the 4% contraction projected by the government and the International Monetary Fund.

Opposition accuses Iraq of executions

CAIRO (AP) - Iraq has executed 62 political prisoners who had been detained since a failed uprising after the 1991 Gulf War, an exiled opposition party said yesterday.

They were executed in Abu Ghraib Prison, west of Baghdad, in late June, said a statement from the London-based Center for Human Rights of the Iraqi Communist Party.

The bodies were not handed over to their families, but to security authorities in Abu Ghraib district, who "proceeded to bury them in mass graves," the statement said.

The group gave the names of the executed prisoners, saying they were the latest victims of a series of executions that began last year.

"This new wave [of executions], which reached a peak on June 28, targeted detainees who had been accused of participating in the popular uprising of March 1991." The prisoners were from the provinces of Taamim, Basra, Karbala, Misan, Babel, Dhi-Qar, Qadisiyah, Najaf, and Muthana, the group said.

It was not possible to obtain comment from the Iraqi government.

In April, the UN human rights commissioner responsible for Iraq, former Dutch foreign minister Max van der Stoep, said as many as 1,500 people may have been executed in Iraqi prisons and elsewhere last year.

Interviewed on CNN earlier this year, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz refused to respond directly to a question about such executions.

Many of last year's executions were said to have taken place in Abu Ghraib Prison.

The Iraqi Communist Party, in its statement on the executions, called on the United Nations and human rights organizations to exert greater pressure on Iraq to stop the killings.

"We appeal in particular to the UN Security Council and UN Secretary-General Mr. Kofi Annan personally, who, up to now, has not apparently been moved by the horrific mass killings occurring for nearly nine months in the prisons of a UN member state," the statement said.

US balloonist sets new record crossing Atlantic

By ED SCHAFER

ST. LOUIS (AP) - Adventurer Steve Fossett has become the first person to cross the South Atlantic in a balloon, leaving him in good shape both emotionally and geographically.

The Solo Spirit was about 1,450 kilometers southeast of Cape Town, South Africa, late Tuesday night, moving at about 182 kph, as Fossett approached the 11,265 kilometer mark in his bid to become the first balloonist to circle the globe.

Fossett's mission control at Washington University in St. Louis said the balloon had picked up some favorable winds and was drifting across the Indian Ocean. The next challenge was for his crew to determine the best altitude and wind pattern to carry him toward Australia. They were expected to make a decision early yesterday.

"It's going to be a reasonably good flight through this zone," Solo Spirit meteorologist Bob Rice said. "All we're trying to do now is pick an altitude that trades through this particular minefield."

The 54-year-old Chicago businessman took off from western Argentina late Friday in his fourth

attempt to float around the world. His previous attempts have been in the northern hemisphere, a far less hazardous route. The southern route is primarily over water.

"It's OK to fly down there, but the penalty for failure is pretty stiff," Rice said. "If you have to abort or run out of fuel, it's pretty bad country to drop into."

There is usually a dense cloud cover in the higher latitudes of the hemisphere and icing could occur if the balloon had to go down through the clouds. The balloon is traveling around the 25,000-foot level, Rice said, with the temperature in the unheated gondola at freezing.

The Solo Spirit passed about 105 kilometers south of Cape Town on Tuesday. Fossett's west-to-east course just skirted the extreme southern tip of the continent.

Rice said Fossett was facing no immediate problems with about 25 percent of the trip behind him.

"He seems to be in very good spirits," Rice said.

Now that Fossett has passed Africa, Rice said he will try to catch favorable winds to carry him on to Australia before his hoped-for return to South America via the Pacific.

Killer of Cosby's son sentenced to life

By DAN WHITCOMB

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (Reuters) - A Ukrainian-born teenage immigrant was sentenced on Tuesday to life in prison without the possibility of parole, for murdering comedian Bill Cosby's son in a botched robbery.

Mikhail Markhasev, 19, was impressive as Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge David Perez imposed a mandatory sentence of life on him for the January 16, 1997, murder of 27-year-old Ennis Cosby.

Defense lawyers vowed to appeal the verdict and sentencing. As he was led out of court, Markhasev, a one-time honor student turned drug addict, gang member, and petty criminal,

flashed a smile at his mother and grandmother, who had let out gasps when the sentence was imposed.

Neither Bill Cosby nor his wife Camille were in court to hear the verdict. But the front row was packed with Cosby relatives, who wept openly as Eric Hanks, Ennis's uncle, delivered an emotional statement.

He recalled the slain Columbia University education student as a caring man whose dream was "to open a school for children with disabilities. Our lives are forever changed by this terrible act. Contrary to what Michael Markhasev said, Ennis is not a nigger. Ennis is a human being. To his father he is a hero," said Hanks, using Markhasev's

Americanized version of his first name and recalling a boast that Markhasev allegedly made after the murder that "I killed a nigger."

Hanks added: "We all admired him... how he could extend his hand in friendship... knowing Ennis, he was probably trying to reach out to his killer." Evidence at the trial stated that Ennis Cosby tried to offer his killer a cigarette when he was shot in the head during a botched robbery on the side of a darkened Los Angeles free-

way, where Ennis Cosby had stopped to fix a flat tire.

Hanks said Markhasev never showed any remorse for the killing. He also displayed slides of Ennis Cosby graduating from college, contrasting them with pictures of Markhasev making a rude gesture to photographers just after he was found guilty last month.

Quake sways buildings in California

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA, CA (AP) - A sharp earthquake hit Northern California yesterday, swaying buildings in downtown San Francisco and disrupting commuter trains.

The quake opened at least three cracks in Highway 101 in San Benito County, the California Highway Patrol said. There were no immediate reports of damage to buildings in the area.

The US Geological Survey in Menlo Park said the quake, with a preliminary magnitude of 5.3, happened at about 7:10 a.m. Wednesday and was centered 7 miles south-southeast of San Juan Bautista. The historic mis-

sion town is 90 miles southeast of San Francisco.

The quake's point of origin was 5.6 miles deep along the fault, USGS spokeswoman Susan Garcia said.

People felt the quake, which lasted for a few seconds, all around the San Francisco Bay.

"My couch was moving across the room. It felt like it moved four inches, one inch at a time," said Jessica Qualley of San Francisco.

"It seemed to be a pretty good one," said Pat Walker, manager of the El Dorado Motel in Salinas, a few miles southwest of the epicenter.

Where to eat in Israel

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COFFEE MILL, Coffee Beanery and Loose Teas, Espresso Bar, Jim. Rabbinate kashrut. Light dairy menu; coffee & tea accessories. 23 Emek Refaim Tel. 566-1665. Car. Talpiot Tel. 672-5491.

DARNA - Authentic Moroccan Restaurant, KOSHER. Our home is your home. Business lunch, salads, couscous, dessert, traditional mint tea. Only NIS 69, with this ad. Open 12-3 p.m., 6:30-11:30 p.m. 3 Harkness St. Tel. 02-624 5406.

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NORMAN'S STEAKN BURGER - Freshest burgers, steaks, ribs, chicken, fish, seafoods and more, grilled to perfection. American style food and service, Kasher Jerusalem Rabbinate. 27 Emek Refaim, German Colony. Tel. 02-566 6603.

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RESTAURANT MISHKENOT SHAAANANIM - Superb French cuisine for lunch & dinner, 7 days a week. Outstanding wine cellar, elegant setting - spectacular view - private room. Located in Yemin Moshe (below the Guest House). Tel. 02-525 1042.

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THE WILD BULL SHOR BAR STEAK HOUSE - Finest quality meats and generous portions. "Probably the best steaks and hamburgers in town." SPECIAL DEAL FOR THE HOLIDAYS. For reservations call 02-6244395. 3 Ya'abetz St., Jerusalem (behind the Bell Center)

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Old enough to kill

A seven- and an eight-year-old are being held in Chicago for allegedly murdering an 11 year-old girl for her bicycle. This is the latest in a recent spate of US murders involving youngsters.

By ERIC SLATER

CHICAGO - Two boys - ages 7 and 8 - have been arrested on suspicion of murdering an 11-year-old girl, police said Monday in a case certain to inflame passions over the punishment of juvenile offenders.

The boys are accused of killing Ryan Harris, whose head was smashed with a rock, her mouth stuffed with twigs and grass. She was also sexually assaulted.

Police said the pair - the youngest murder suspects in Chicago history and among the youngest ever in the nation - killed Harris because they wanted to steal the shiny blue Road Warrior bicycle she was riding.

They are so young that Illinois law doesn't provide for their incarceration; no one under 10 may be kept in a locked facility. The oldest is five years shy of the minimum age at which he could be charged as an adult.

"This one, unfortunately, is blaznig new trails," said a somber Bob Benjamin, a spokesman for the Cook County state's attorney's office.

But they are by no means alone in their status as accused pre-adolescent killers.

In 1996, the most recent year for which FBI statistics are available, there were three murders committed in the US by children ages 5 to 8.

In 1997, a 13-year-old Los Angeles boy shot and killed two people - including 82-year-old Watts grandmother Viola McClain.

On Monday, an 11-year-old Martinez, Calif., boy who prosecutors said was motivated by revenge to shoot his 13-year-old neighbor to death was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter.

Tuesday, opening arguments are to begin in the trial of 11-year-old Andrew Golden and 13-year-old Mitchell Johnson, accused of gunning down four classmates and a teacher at a Jonesboro, Ark., school in March.

The body of Harris - a diminutive, straight-A student who wanted to be both a professional basketball player and a doctor - was discovered July 28 in a weed-choked lot in the city's South Side neighborhood of Englewood. Harris, who lived in another Chicago neighborhood with her mother, grandparents and five siblings, had been



Ryan Harris, 11, apparently murdered for her blue bike. (AP)

staying with her grandmother so that she could attend a nearby summer camp.

In the days following the murder, police questioned dozens of neighborhood children in an attempt to trace Harris's movements after she peddled away from her grandmother's house on the borrowed bicycle.

The boys now in custody - quiet, courteous kids too young

to count out the proper change when buying goodies at a local grocery store, according to the store's owner - were considered possible witnesses.

They told police they had seen a stranger lure Harris into his car, and take the bike as well, Chicago police Sgt. Stan Zaborac said. But in subsequent interviews, officials said, their stories began to change.

On Sunday, the boys' parents brought them to the local police station for further questioning. "In their statements, there were elements of this case that would only be known by the detectives who investigated it and the perpetrators," Zaborac said.

By Monday morning, police had called off the search for other suspects, saying they had confessions and physical evidence tying the boys to the crime. The younger boy made three separate statements implicating himself, police said.

Appearing at a hearing in juvenile court Monday, the suspects drew pictures at the defense table, ate Skittles and cried.

The boys told police that they had started throwing rocks at the girl, and one thrown by the younger boy hit her in the back of her head, causing her to fall off her bike and hit her head on the ground, Detective Allen Nathaniel testified.

The younger boy told police they dragged Harris about 20 feet to a wooded area and "began to play with her very softly," Nathaniel said. Police said the girl, who died from blunt trauma to the head and

asphyxiation, likely was unconscious when she was dragged. Nathaniel said at least one of the boys pulled her pants off.

A judge ruled there was sufficient evidence to hold the pair. But Andre Grant, an attorney for one of the boys, denied the murder allegations, saying: "They do not have the physical power or ability to do what was done. They could not have dragged this girl into the secluded area." Shirley Blanton, who has lived next door to the older boy's parents since before he was born, said the two friends were "lovable kids."

They would help people work in their yard. They'd help fix bicycles, paint bicycles. They were just normal kids.

"They didn't do this," Blanton said above the din of the coin-operated laundry she manages just blocks from where Harris's body was found. "I know they didn't."

Although most American cities have had their share of shocking crimes at the hands of kids, Chicago's recent history is a particularly grim one.

In the fall of 1994, 11-year-old murder suspect Robert "Yummy" Sandifer was shot in

the head, executed by his own gang brothers because they feared he might surrender to police. A few days later, another 11-year-old was charged with bludgeoning to death an elderly neighbor.

That was followed by a murder that continues to haunt the city. Two boys, just 8 and 10, dangled 5-year-old Eric Morris from a 14th-floor window of a South Side tenement building after the preschooler refused to steal candy for them. They pulled him back inside, then held him out the window again, and let go. Morris fell to his death.

Harris's slaying took place in similarly childlike circumstances, police said, when two grade-schoolers began to covet a bicycle.

Police said that the girl and the 8-year-old boy, who may have known each other, were together when the boy's 7-year-old friend showed up. The younger boy, according to authorities, initiated the incident, picking up a stone and either throwing it or slamming it into the side of Harris's head.

The blow fractured her skull. (Los Angeles Times)

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Unconstrained by reality

AFTER OSLO edited by George Giacaman and Dag Jorund Lønning. London, Pluto Press. 240 pp. Price not stated.

By Shimshon Arad

A number of critics of Oslo, Palestinians and non-Arabs, have collected 10 disquisitions aimed at attempting to show how badly the Oslo agreements have served the Palestinian cause. All the contributors to this assault on Arafat and his adherents again demonstrate how the acquisition of academic training and the mastering of distinct intellectual tools do not necessarily guarantee bold and sound judgment.

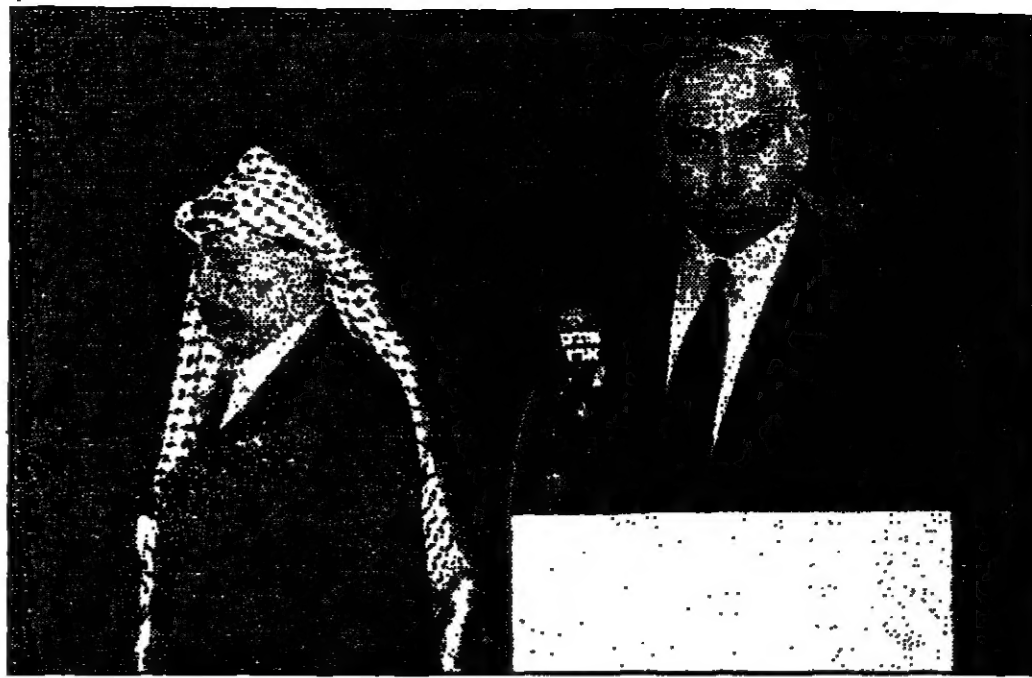
We have been subjected for almost five years to a reckless onslaught in Israel – from the messianic zealots and the extreme Right – on the Oslo agreements, and it is rather amusing and nauseating to see such a parallel attack coming from some of the most distinguished Palestinian scholars, but naturally in the opposite direction. The victory of the Likud in the 1996 election, said Fuad Ajami in his recently published book *Dream Palaces of the Arabs*, was the sort of outcome that the Arab intellectual class could live with. The discrediting of the Oslo agreements has united them all, the Israeli Right and the Bir Zeit professors.

The editors of this very revealing volume indicate that it has two analytical objectives. First, "it represents a critical and analytical assessment of the Oslo process, of some of its social, political and human consequences and results for the region in general and on Palestinian society in particular."

Second, it tries to understand and underline the "continuous crisis in the area" since the agreements were signed. What the contributors totally fail to do is to offer any realistic and responsible alternative to Arafat's course. In that, they contribute to the long barren record of the Arabs, who have preferred to resort to "dream palaces." They hardly realize how similar they sound to the Israeli Right and its messianic allies.

Several of the authors, and especially George Giacaman, a philosophy professor at Bir Zeit University, Fuad Moughrabi, a professor at the University of Tennessee, and Azmi Bishara, a Knesset member, appear to relate to some of the poignant developments that inflicted heavy damage to the Palestinian cause, and they do this in a rational and methodical manner. But they fall into the inevitable pit of assailing "the acceptance of the defeat," as if coming to terms with reality is a moral sin and a national calamity.

Forty-one years too late, the Palestinian National Council in Algiers adopted two decisions in 1988. The first implied the recognition of Israel as a state through the acceptance of the principle of partitioning Palestine. The second included the recognition of Israel within the 1967 boundaries through the acceptance of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The first decision, says George Giacaman, was taken by consensus, the second, relating to Israel's borders, was adopted by a majority vote. Subsequently, when the Oslo agreements were signed, the Palestinian National Council was never called to ratify them. Whatever life it possessed before then quickly expired, stresses Giacaman, "especially after the election of a new Palestinian Council in January 1996 under the terms of the Oslo agreements."



Chairman Arafat and Prime Minister Netanyahu – brought together by Oslo

(Brian Henders)

On the Palestinian side, says Giacaman, the Oslo agreements precipitated a major crisis in political life for the parties that were opposed to them. In the past, the PLO "brought a political diversity and a clearer definition of ideological pluralism within Palestinian society," and introduced modern party associations. But alas, once the new Palestinian Authority emerged after Oslo, "the threat to civil society from such a unitary model and history became quickly apparent." Unable to realize their programs for what they considered a "just, comprehensive and permanent peace," most parties, especially those on the Left, were unable or unwilling either to change their programmes or pragmatically to follow Arafat. It became clear that the PLO was no longer a functioning body, and that it had almost completely been superseded by the Authority.

In these sobering circumstances of the PLO's truncated power, the Netanyahu government's persistent attempts to extract a further ceremonial ritual that annuls the infamous Covenant looks

even more pathetic. Unless, of course, it is a devious device to let the rejectionist front within the PLO achieve the defeat of Arafat, to the satisfaction of the Israeli rejectionists of Oslo.

Fuad Moughrabi claims that "most Arabs realize that the balance of power is such that Israel, which has nuclear weaponry, may be able to defeat all the Arab armies combined in conventional warfare." In addition, there is a conviction "that Israel is here to stay for the foreseeable future." Most people, says Moughrabi, "are willing to accept Israel as one of the states in the region but they are not willing to accept it as the hegemonic power." His argument is that the attempts at "normalization" between Arab countries and Israel would benefit Israel much more than the Palestinians and the Arab countries. Even in the area of tourism, "Israel will reap the majority of the benefits."

A new Palestinian elite, observes Azmi Bishara, "emerged from the womb of the [Oslo] process." It is composed of individuals in Palestinian leadership circles "who have become part of the fabric of Israeli-Palestinian relations." Bishara implies that "their commitment to the Palestinian cause has become conditioned by their need for permits to pass through Israeli military checkpoints, and commissions they get, thanks to their Israeli connections." Bishara views this development with disdain and considers it an Israeli success. Tragically, he maintains, "the price of all this is that the Palestinian society has been neutralized" and feels resentful.

He goes even further by claiming that the Fatah organization, "which is supposedly the ruling party of the Palestinian Authority (PA), discovered only recently that it is being marginalized by it." And the Likud government, "which is unable and unwilling to find a common language with the prevailing Palestinian elites as Labor did, together with the anti-democratic activities of the PA, undermine slowly but surely the national option incorporated in the two-state solution." This certainly seems like a valid observation, especially if one bears in mind Bishara's subsequent statement that "the bi-national option is still not a political programme, but a project with cultural and intellectual aspects" – in other words, another "palace dream."

The inclusion in this volume of learned essays by two Norwegians appears to imply that not all Norwegians were excited by Oslo. These essays reflect a deep sympathy for the Palestinians but not always a realization of their shortcomings. It does not surprise the reader to find in this collection a tract very critical of Israel by Amnon Raz-Krakotzkin, a professor at Ben-Gurion University. One does not have to endorse his views in order to strongly affirm the benefit of diversity. Raz-Krakotzkin believes that the "present cultural position of the 'Zionist left,' which excludes Oriental Jews and ignores the religious aspects of Zionist identity, prevents any possibility of a real change of the Zionist Israeli perspective." Let him have his own palace dream.

I am tempted to refer again to Ajami's wisdom. At the end of *The Dream Palaces of the Arabs* he says that "anyone who still uses the rhetoric of injustice, dispossession, the Palestinian right of return, etc., is now regarded as being hopelessly out of touch or politically naive." This could equally apply to the Israeli Rightists who cite all these old Palestinian whimpers in order to frighten Israelis that Oslo is a catastrophe.

Report on Kinsey, the statistician of sexual behavior

ALFRED C. KINSEY: A Public/Private Life by James H. Jones. New York, W.W. Norton. 773 pp. \$39.95.

By Ephraim Gerber

James H. Jones gives us both an even-handed biography of this demon-possessed scientist and a cultural history of the United States from the Victorian period to McCarthy. One of the great challenges in the art of biography is to prepare the ground for the extended moment when the subject enters fame. We want to know who the man or woman was who "met the train." In this regard Jones has written a masterpiece.

The Kinsey Institute does not see it this way, however. The trustees withdrew support for the book during the research stage, and they have posted scathing reviews at their website (www.kinsey.com), taking Jones to task for over-psychologizing Kinsey. Kinsey, the biologist, disliked psychoanalysis. He considered them mere gatekeepers for a repressive sexual order. Perhaps the criticism of Jones from Kinsey's



Alfred C. Kinsey

(Arnold Newman)

supporters retains a bit of this prejudice.

But his defenders may miss a central point: the facts as Jones prodigiously marshals them tell the story of a man rising heroically to meet his myth. Alfred C. Kinsey hid his own tortured sexuality while revealing truths about America's. It is difficult to conceive how any biographer might have pleased the Kinsey estate, short of conspiring to keep silent about what secrets remained.

Kinsey refashioned himself from a lecture hall bully into a tireless counselor to people in pain, almost a caricature of everyone's worst university nightmare. He was an intrusive, manipulative, dictatorial voyeur, but he transmuted these qualities to invent out of his scientific training and his private infirmities a statistically valid method of questioning (with variations). And then by some hypnotic force of empathy he got thousands of people to trust him with their sexual histories. The psychoanalysts would call this sublimation.

Jones writes: "Born into a society that was anxious and conflicted over human sexuality, Kinsey was a product of Victorian culture's power to shape and control character. His formative years were spent in a home and in a nation where middle-class parents enshrouded sex in shame, heaping more than enough guilt on young people to mangle and twist them. This was particularly true of those like Kinsey who aspired to moral perfection. His great accomplishment was to take his pain and suffering and use it to transform himself into an instrument of social reform, a secular evangelist who proclaimed a new sensibility about human sexuality. As a friend and great admirer put it, Kinsey's secret life 'was the source

of his greatness."

How short a trip back it is to those days Kinsey helped to end when the only sex education young people received was an exhortation to chastity in "social hygiene" courses (anti-sex classes, Jones calls them), given by earnest medical practitioners on topics like "self-abuse and madness." This was a period when the Vatican's list of banned books, the Index Librorum Prohibitorum, had crippling power on research, and when an angry woman could have her son-in-law sent to prison upon hearing her daughter relate some intimate details of her private life. Jones evokes these days for us, more often than not in the context of Kinsey's eyes brimming with tears at news of someone suffering.

But this same crusader for tolerance became so completely taken over by the idea of sexual liberation that he lost the power to discriminate, permitting the "research" of child molesters to find its way into his books. Kinsey committed some unforgivable acts as a scientist, teacher, and husband. Yet Jones records these excesses, too, as sympathetically as possible; perhaps for the very reason that he has accurately

psychologized his man.

Jones's style is oddly dour, almost calibrated to be a step above textbook dry. Strangely enough, this style suits the subject admirably. Alfred Kinsey began his career as an entomologist, and spent decades collecting, classifying, mounting and writing about the gall wasp. He was driven to find tens of thousands of specimens, convinced that there was no end to individual variation, a belief he carried over into his study

of human sexuality. As he stepped into his myth he spent years fighting with the Rockefeller Foundation about grants. And as his star declined he fought furious battles with statisticians in an attempt to uphold his methodology, sensing that moralists used such attacks as a cover for their real agenda.

By not overshooting his material stylistically Jones converts these chapters into the stuff of high drama.

ly psychologized his man.

By not overshooting his material stylistically Jones converts these chapters into the stuff of high drama.

STEIMATZKY'S BESTSELLING PAPERBACKS

1. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy. Flamingo.
2. The Mark of Cain by Ram Oren. Keshet.
3. Angel of Darkness by Caleb Carr. Ballantine, Warner.
4. Special Delivery by Danielle Steel. Dell, Corgi.
5. The Matinee Countdown by Robert Ludlum. HarperCollins, Bantam.
6. Angel's Ashes by Frank McCourt. Touchstone.
7. Survival of the Fittest by Jonathan Kellerman. Warner, Bantam.
8. The Winner by David Baldacci. Warner, Pocket.
9. Sacrifice of Tamar by Naomi Ragen. HarperCollins.
10. Fifth Mountain by Paolo Coelho. HarperCollins.

BOOK BYTES

Only three weeks after the death of Dame Catherine Cookson in June, her beloved husband Tom died at 85 following a short illness. As if writing the denouement to her own story, Britain's most famous historical novelist once confided to her biographer Piers Dudgeon: "Whoever one of us dies first, the other will follow soon after."

The couple met in the late 1930s, when Catherine took Tom in as a lodger to help pay her mortgage on a house. She worked 14 hours a day, and he was teacher. He kissed her on their first date, and they were married in June 1940.

Tom encouraged her to write as a way of overcoming her extreme depression in the mid-40s. He was always by her side, and she described him as "the bedrock of her worldwide fame." Whenever she had to make a speech, she sought him out in the audience for reassurance.

When she slipped into her final coma at age 91, Tom constantly sat by her bedside. He occupied himself by reading the proofs of her last eight unpublished books.

THE STORY OF THE READER (Phoenix; reviewed in the Post on February 20, 1998) occupied a corner of Bernard Schlink's mind years before he began to write it. The novel opens with a love affair between a teenager and an older woman in post-war Germany. The next time Michael Berg meets Hanna Schmitz is years later in court. She had been an Auschwitz guard and is accused of an appalling crime.

Schlink, who is a professor of public law and legal philosophy at Berlin University, has written three previous novels, all crime thrillers. He turned to writing fiction when he discovered that his scholarly work was not fully absorbing.

"I started to feel that something was missing in my life," says Schlink. Born in 1944, he grew up with the generation that immediately followed the evil of Nazism.

"We thought that we could condemn, and be clean, and not have anything to do with it any more. Only later did we realize that we were still entangled with the first generation's guilt, and deeds, and destiny."

As the trial of Hanna proceeds, Michael discovers to his chagrin that he still loves her despite the accusations against her. "We have to live with that tension," says Schlink, who admits to autobiographical elements in the story. "If the Nazis had been monsters, we would not have a problem. It is because they were not monsters that what happened is so challenging for us, and so frightening."

"MEMORY, I have come to understand, is life itself," says Linda Grant, author of *Remind Me Who I Am, Again* (Granta). The book is a memoir about Grant's mother Rose, who is suffering from multi-infarct dementia. MID, far less well known than Alzheimer's, is a series of small strokes which destroy the brain, killing off short-term memory first. "Have I told you I've been diagnosed with a memory loss?" Rose Grant asks, twice.

Soon Linda's mother will forget how to speak. Grant chose to write her book partly because she is a "product of a generation [b. 1951] that grew up to say that the past was behind us."

She sees now that the death of memory in Rose, who is among the last of her generation of Jewish refugees who went to Britain to escape the Nazis, affects more than her immediate family.

David Brunner

HARDCOVER Fiction

1. Point of Origin by Patricia Cornwell. (Putnam \$25.95) Dr. Kay Scarpetta battles an old enemy, a serial killer who has escaped.
2. I Know This Much Is True by Wally Lamb. (Regan Books/HarperCollins \$27.50) A troubled man must care for his schizophrenic identical twin and face the nightmares of their family.
3. Summer Sisters by Judy Blume. (Delacorte \$21.95) Two young women from very different backgrounds come of age together on Martha's Vineyard.
4. Message in a Bottle by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner \$20) After finding a seashore bottle containing an enigmatic letter, a divorced woman encounters love.
5. Bridget Jones's Diary by Helen Fielding. (Viking \$22.95) A year in the life of a thirty-something female.
6. The Clone and I by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte \$17.95) A woman believes she has found Mr. Right, a high-tech expert, then is amazed to meet his clone.
7. A Night Without Armor by Jewel Kicher. (HarperCollins \$15) The singer-songwriter's poems contemplate love, family, Alaska and life on the road.
8. The First Eagle by Tony Hillerman. (HarperCollins \$25) Two Navajo policemen pursue a mysterious killer – a plague or a person?
9. Memories of a Geisha by Arthur Golden. (Knopf \$25) The life of a young woman growing up in Kyoto who has to reinvent herself after World War II begins.
10. Low Country by Anne Rivers Siddons. (HarperCollins \$25) A South Carolina woman's life reaches a crisis when her husband considers turning her inherited island into a resort.

HARDCOVER Non-fiction

1. Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday \$19.95) A sportswriter tells of his weekly visits to his old college mentor, who was near death's door.
2. A Pirate Looks at Fifty by Jimmy Buffett. (Random House \$24.95) While traveling to the Amazon, the singer-songwriter reflects on his half-century of life.
3. A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson. (Grosset \$25) A journalist finds beauty and humor while hiking the Appalachian trail.
4. Angel's Ashes by Frank McCourt. (Bantam \$24) An Irish-American writer recalls his childhood.
5. The Millionaire Next Door by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko. (Longstreet \$22) The lives of wealthy Americans disclose that they have seven characteristics in common.
6. A Monk Swimming by Michael McCourt. (Hyperion \$23.95) The writer and actor (and brother of Frank McCourt) recalls his life in America and Ireland.
7. The Gifts of the Jews by Thomas Cahill. (Doubleday \$23.50) What Western civilization owes an ancient tribe.
8. We Are Our Mothers' Daughters by Cokie Roberts. (Morrow \$19.95) The television news anchor's reflections on women in politics and business and as mothers, wives, sisters and friends.
9. Titan by Ron Chernow. (Random House \$30) The life of John D. Rockefeller Sr.
10. Citizen Soldiers by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Simon & Schuster \$27.50) The US Army, from Normandy to the Bulge to Germany's surrender.

PAPERBACK Fiction

1. Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood by Rebecca Wells. (Harper Perennial \$13.50) Three generations of Southern women.
2. Rising Tides by Nora Roberts. (Jove \$7.50) Returning to his home on the Maryland shore, a man finds a new love.
3. The Best Laid Plans by Sidney Sheldon. (Warner \$7.95) The relationship between a power-hungry governor and a beautiful woman determined to wreak revenge.
4. The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner Vision \$5.99) A WWII veteran meets an old flame who is about to be married.
5. Unnatural Exposure by Patricia Cornwell. (Berkley \$7.99) Dr. Kay Scarpetta contends with a killer who uses a smallpox-like virus and cyberspace tricks.
6. Orphans: Butterfly and Crystal by V.C. Andrews. (Pocket \$3.99) A troubled orphan is adopted by a couple who hope she will become a ballerina.
7. The Matinee Connection by Robert Ludlum. (Bantam \$7.99) A CIA officer struggles to thwart the return of an international cabal.
8. Detective by Arthur Hailey. (Berkley \$7.99) A serial killer's confession leads a Miami cop into an investigation of powerful political figures.
9. Power of a Woman by Barbara Taylor Bradford. (Harper Paperbacks \$7.50) A businesswoman struggles with her past after her daughter is the victim of violence.
10. She's Come Undone by Wally Lamb. (Pocket \$7.99) A woman's harrowing progress from youth to middle age.

PAPERBACK Non-fiction

1. The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger. (Harper Paperbacks \$6.99) The story of the northeast of 1991, focusing on a crew of fishermen from Gloucester, Mass.
2. Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$7.99) A journalist's account of his ascent on Mt. Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
3. Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes. (Broadway \$13) A celebration of life in the Italian countryside.
4. Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$12.95) A young man's obsession with the wilderness.
5. The Color of Water by James McBride. (Farrar \$12) A black writer and musician recalls growing up with his white mother in a Brooklyn housing project.
6. The Climber by Anatoli Boucourev and G. Weston Dewell. (St. Martin's \$6.99) Another account of the 1986 Mt. Everest disaster.
7. A Child Called "It" by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications \$8.95) How a man survived his mother's abuse.
8. A Civil Action by Jonathan Harr. (Vintage \$13) A lawsuit against industrial polluters.
9. Undaunted Courage by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Touchstone/\$8.50) Lewis and Clark's exploration.
10. Walt TB Next Year by Doris Kearns Goodwin. (Touchstone/\$8.50) Recollections of a '50s girlhood on Long Island, in the orbit of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

PAPERBACK Miscellaneous

1. Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon \$6.50) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.
2. Don't Sweat the Small Stuff...and It's All Small Stuff by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$8.95) How to enjoy life more and contribute to the world we live in.
3. Protein Power by Michael R. Eades. (Bantam \$6.50) Two physicians offer a protein-rich, low-carbohydrate plan for losing weight.
4. Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Kimberly Kirberger. (Health Communications \$12.95) Inspirational stories.

HARDCOVER Miscellaneous

1. Sugar Busters by H. Leighton Steward et al. (Ballantine \$22) A diet designed for losing weight, increasing energy and combating disease.
2. In the Meantime by Iyanla Vanzant. (Simon & Schuster \$23) Ways to find what you truly need, particularly "the love that you want."
3. Mars and Venus Starting Over by John Gray. (HarperCollins \$25) Counsel for men and women following a breakup, divorce, or the loss of a loved one.
4. Marilu Henner's Total Health Makeover by Marilu Henner with Laura Morton. (Regan Books/HarperCollins \$24) Promoting fitness and vitality.

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A club of one

Although medical science has made great strides in recent times, the physician's motto "first do no harm" is still valid. An even greater degree of modesty should be applied to less scientific efforts to do good, such as arms control agreements. On Tuesday, Israel became the last member of the 61-nation UN Conference on Disarmament to drop its opposition to negotiating a ban on the production of the isotopes that fuel nuclear weapons. It will probably not be the last time that Israel is isolated on this issue.

Until recently, the "nuclear ambiguity" club consisted of only three nations: Israel, India, and Pakistan. Each was presumed to have nuclear weapons, but found it to be diplomatically wise not to join the club of five nations with "declared" nuclear arsenals: the United States, Russia, England, France, and China. Then India, noting that the "declared" club also happened to be exactly the same nations that comprise the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, decided in late May that it would "declare" itself with a bang. When Pakistan followed with its nuclear tests days later, Israel was left in a club of one.

Having come out of the nuclear closet, India and Pakistan are perhaps a bit less concerned about the proposed new treaty, tentatively dubbed the FMCT - Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty. The treaty - which does not even exist yet in an official draft form - would ban the production of plutonium and highly enriched uranium (HEU), either of which can be used to fuel nuclear weapons.

Though some nations are proposing otherwise, the treaty is not expected to apply to existing stockpiles of plutonium and enriched uranium, both of which are in plentiful supply. Plutonium, a man-made element, did not exist before 1945; today there are an estimated 1,200 metric tons of it around the world. This is a staggering amount, given that it takes only 8 kilograms of plutonium to make a "small" nuclear bomb.

With the tremendous amounts of plutonium in existence, one might wonder what a ban on further production can really contribute to preventing the spread of nuclear weapons. The five declared nuclear nations have already unilaterally declared a moratorium on production. The prospect of a ban may have the initial effect of encouraging some nations to increase their stockpiles in anticipation; a ban clearly would not reduce the amount of plutonium in the world any time soon.

What worries Israel, now alone in its ambiguity, is that the inspection regime of a future

treaty might make even the pretense of ambiguity impossible to maintain. The irony here is that Israel, which unlike India and Pakistan, has signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, now finds its being "well behaved" a disadvantage. While all the other nuclear states will jealously protect information regarding the size and quality of the arsenals, Israel is the only one still trying not to confirm that it does have an arsenal.

Such diplomatic considerations develop a surreal quality, in that it seems that the international system has almost forgotten the actual purpose of arms control. Israel, of all nations, has the greatest interest in stemming actual proliferation, as opposed to proliferating treaties. It should be sobering to note that Iraq not only signed the crown jewel of non-proliferation treaties, the NPT, but that this treaty legitimized Iraq's acquisition of a French nuclear reactor. It was this "peaceful" nuclear reactor that Israel felt compelled to bomb in 1981, when it was clear that international safeguards would not prevent Iraq from producing its own bomb-grade fissile materials. Now, after the Gulf War and several years of the most intrusive inspection regime ever, Iraq is still clinging to its weapons of mass destruction production capability.

The existing non-proliferation regime deserves some credit for encouraging "rollback": the phenomenon of nations (such as Argentina, Brazil, South Korea, and Taiwan) deciding to abandon nascent nuclear weapons development programs. The number of nations actively striving to join the nuclear club can be counted on one hand, even though dozens of nations have the technological capability to do so.

The problem, of course, is that the nations that are most eager to buy or develop nuclear weapons are exactly those the world would least like to see obtaining them: Iran, Iraq, Libya, and North Korea. At this point, global treaties based on weak, lowest-common-denominator inspection regimes may be worse than useless, in that they pull nations into a false sense of security. A more promising approach is that advocated by Israel and other nations: a regional nuclear-free zone.

Israel is offering to submit to a very intrusive inspection regime - provided it is to enforce a regional nuclear-free zone, and have each nation may inspect the other, rather than rely upon international bodies.

Such agreements exist in Latin America and Asia, and could arise in the context of a comprehensive peace agreement in the Middle East. Short of this, it is hard to see how another unenforceable treaty will do more good than harm.

OK, YOU WON ROUND ONE



BLEE 98

Why not work?

DANIEL DORON

The Hiriya garbage dump, located near the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway and spreading its stench for decades over the most populated part of Israel, is a fitting monument to the inbred ineptitude of all Israeli governments when they face even relatively simple tasks.

All of our governments have repeatedly demonstrated that they are not only incapable of tackling such complex and dangerous tasks as toxic waste disposal - as last week's fire in Ramat Hovav illustrated - but that even the relatively simple duty of plain garbage removal is beyond their capacity.

It is therefore surprising that reasonable people, let alone populist demagogues, still expect governments to solve the painfully complex problem of unemployment. It is even more amazing since it is government policy and action that has habitually created unemployment or at least aggravated it, often by the very measures meant to eliminate it.

Unemployment is of course a serious, painful problem to those who really seek work and cannot find it. But no one really knows how many among the hundreds of thousands who are on the dole really belong there.

The fact that Israel is host to a few hundred thousand foreign workers, legal and illegal, and that the cost of a house cleaner, when you can get one, is equal if not higher than a secretary's, indicates that our labor markets reflect costly distortions and inflexibilities.

Behind these distortions and inflexibilities is invariably the heavy hand of government, especially its wastefulness, and its distortive, growth-inhibiting fiscal and monetary policies.

Much unemployment is concentrated in so-called development towns, where governments dumped new immigrants without enough capital and infrastructure, without proper education and services.

They were made dependant on low-paid unskilled jobs in heavily

subsidized, noncompetitive single company towns, or on seasonal work in surrounding kibbutzim and moshavim and in their equally unviable enterprises.

When increased competition caused these enterprises to go bankrupt, or when they found even cheaper work among Palestinians, foreign workers or in Jordan and Egypt (the untold benefits of the peace process), development towns were deprived of their single employment source. They were left with an unskilled, aging population and an ever-widening circle of welfare addicts, unable to seek or hold a job.

A MINIMUM wage designed to help has actually priced many unskilled workers out of the labor market, removing the lower rungs from the employment ladder on which they must gradually climb.

While the minimum wage can protect workers from monopolistic single employers in remote locations, its general effects have been deleterious, though non-economists will find it difficult to grasp. Suffice it to suggest that if it were in governments' power to fix the price of work, why stop at the measly minimum wage and not secure for workers, say, NIS 9,000 per month?

Furthermore, as *Ha'aretz* noted recently, the dole received by an unemployed family of four is NIS 4,835 a month, while if the father of a similar family earned the average wage, he would make only 4,831. Often, one must be stupid to seek work, especially when much of it is paid below the average.

There are many other government-imposed constraints and negative incentives that militate against work, not the least the Labor Ministry's own poor attempts to find work for the unemployed (out of 26,000 registered monthly job offers, they manage to fill only 5,000!)

Closing the ministry and letting competitive firms place and train workers will save a mint and improve employment prospects.

But since this is improbable, the ministry should be cajoled to implement some of the suggestions contained in the London Adam Smith Institute pamphlet "Why Not Work." It advances the revolutionary notion that the unemployed should be paid for working, not for going idle, an addictive habit, especially among the untrained young who feel increasingly insecure about their abilities and worth (this provokes anti-social behavior, including the rising pub violence, fatal car "accidents" and crime.)

The pamphlet, which gathers dust in its Hebrew translation in many a government office, explains how to change economic incentives that make work less rewarding than welfare, and how to introduce the habitually unemployed to work habits in workforce programs administered by local authorities and other public bodies who have useful projects that cannot be undertaken because they lack the workers. An Israeli economist suggested, for example, organizing some 20,000 unemployed battle-trained reservists in auxiliary police units to man hundreds of roadblocks and ambushes, to reduce car and other theft.

Whatever will be saved from the hundreds of millions in stolen goods will more than cover their cost above unemployment payments.

It is, of course, not easy to make an elephant dance or a government perform a productive task. But even if some of NIS 2.2 billion (!) spent on unemployment compensation can be made more productive, if training the unemployed can be made more relevant, then all will benefit. A serious effort to get the unemployed to work or really train will eliminate many freeloaders from the unemployment rolls and leave more resources for the truly unfortunate and needy, who are the real victims of a featherbedded system.

Sad but true

DOV BURT LEVY

The Ministry of Tourism has done it again. Or, more accurately, has not done it again. In June, I revealed on this page (it was not a secret for anyone surfing the Internet) that the ministry had not updated its Web page for a year and therefore missed advertising our 50th birthday state celebration with all the tourist festivities.

Check it out today (<http://info-tour.co.il>) and find the ministry's "up-to-date information about Israel" still promoting 1997.

Why beat a dead Web page?

Three reasons. First, the issue goes beyond failure to update a Web page, as important as that might be to tourism to Israel or to Israel's reputation as the Silicon Valley of the Middle East.

The important issues are: lack of managerial attention to responsibilities, refusal to admit failure or fault, the waste of public money, and giving private firms control over government work.

Second, the ministry has 180 employees, almost too small to be technically called a bureaucracy. (One scholar defines a bureaucracy as an organization where the top people know less than half of the staff by name.) If we find such gross negligence here, we should be scared to death and even more vigilant about what happens in the larger government agencies.

Third, We know something about Web sites. Most of us can't argue about how many F-15s the military needs or where to safely deposit the daily mountains of trash and toxic waste collected or how much it should cost.

But a Web site? My oldest grandchildren (9 and 11) and I have our own Web sites. Israel is a world leader in the per-capita use of web sites by private citizens and businesses.

HERE is the sad but true story of why the Ministry of Tourism failed for a year and how, for an encore, it will do even worse for the next

This Ministry of Tourism blunder will continue unless somebody with authority reads this article

three years unless somebody with authority reads this article.

In 1994, the ministry signed a contract with a private firm, Golden Screens Company, for the preparation of a tourist information data base which was put on CD roms and distributed to the ministry's offices abroad. With this, the private firm built and maintained an Internet site for the ministry. After three years, the first stage of the contract expired and the ministry did not renew it. What they didn't say was that the contract was foolish in the first place, that a government agency should never give full control to a contractor.

When a government agency buys something and puts its name on it, the ownership and power to change should remain with the government.

So, during Israel's 50th anniversary tourist year, the site provided outdated information. The contractor would not even take the outdated pages off the Web site.

Here comes the unbelievable part. The ministry has now decided to establish two sites. (If you can't make one work correctly, try two.) The first will be for tourist information similar to the outdated, virtually dead one, that you may still see until December. This time the tourist information site will be commercialized.

That means that when a person logs in to the official Israel Ministry of Tourism site, they will also be treated to a selection of commercials. Like if the Ministry of Transportation had advertisements for Subaru or Moshe's Garage.

Or better yet, the Ministry of Health advertising Viagra and pimple cream.

Who might wish to advertise on the Tourism Ministry site? Hotels, restaurants, maybe an escort service. Not only is it bad taste, but remember the Moscow bank whose advertisements appeared in alyia and absorption agencies. The bank later stole millions of dollars from Russian olim. A heartless crime helped by quasi-government affiliation.

Good news for Golden Screens. They are getting the contract again. While profits will come from commercial advertising sales and not from the ministry, they will continue to be paid to produce CD roms for distribution to ministry offices around the world. Ministry employees could do this more timely and free by using the Internet and e-mail. But, you know the old saying: "It's only government money."

The writer is a former US government executive.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

KENYAN COMMENDATION

Sir, - The Kenya Embassy in Israel wishes to reiterate the message of H.E. President Daniel Arp Moi that the government and people of Kenya wish to commend the prompt action taken by the government of the State of Israel in sending the IDF team that did a marvelous rescue operation. We applaud their courageous efforts that won them worldwide admiration and recognition.

Kenya strongly condemns all forms of international terrorism and hopes that the perpetrators of the Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam bombings will be brought to book no matter how long it will take to do so.

As of August 11, 1998, the casualties were as follows:

202 dead - including
11 Americans and 24 Kenyans at the US Embassy
24 in Intensive Care Unit
542 admitted in hospitals
4,257 treated and discharged
The Kenya Embassy acknowledges and appreciates all messages of condolences, prayers and sympathy that have been expressed either in person or through telephone calls, faxes and the media. In this connection a Condolence Book will be opened for signature today between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and tomorrow between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. at the Kenya Embassy, 15 Abba

Hillel St., Ramat Gan.
Lastly, the Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to sincerely thank all those friendly countries, IGOs, NGOs and individuals that have and are offering help in the rescue operations, humanitarian assistance and bomb blast investigations in Kenya and Tanzania. Such concerted effort will send strong messages to international terrorists that they will have no place to hide in the world.

J.R. GETUGI
Charge d'affaires A.I.
Embassy of Kenya

Ramat Gan.

MORALLY UNACCEPTABLE

Sir, - Even though Gershon Baskin offers sound suggestions for making peace between Israelis and Palestinians ("Can't have it both ways," August 6), such as talking, visiting and doing business with each other, distributing natural resources fairly and, above all, helping to overcome the deepening poverty amongst the Palestinian people, he is wrong to assume that the only way to achieve this is through the establishment of a Palestinian state.

This would not only make it more difficult for Israelis to reach out to Palestinians in the way he suggests, for the simple fact of being separated by an international boundary, but it would also trap

the large number of Palestinians who want peace under a regime which is looking less and less worthy to be trusted with public authority, let alone with the government of a sovereign state.

If Mr. Baskin were to speak to some Palestinians, instead of just suggesting it, he would encounter profound disaffection with the PA and with their "methods" of administration. This is often concealed by fear of speaking out. Add to this general atmosphere of intimidation and repression the other well-known practices of the present Palestinian administration (massive diversion of public funds, corruption, human rights abuses, extortion, political assassination, media control and

censorship) and Mr. Baskin's confidence in the future of a Palestinian state seems entirely baseless.

Quite apart from its own security concerns, the Government of Israel would be irresponsible to rush into establishing such a "state," and would do better to propose other forms of civil administration to the Palestinians. If this were done with generosity, in fairness and without prejudice, it may even gain the support of the majority of Palestinian people.

A Palestinian state is by no means inevitable; to all the world it is even beginning to look morally unacceptable.

JOHN BATTLETT
Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On August 13, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported a serious condition at Jaffa port and warned that unless immediate steps were taken, the upsurge in amount of merchandise filling to capacity the Customs area was likely to cause a stoppage in shipping.

50 years ago: On August 13, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported

that the Arabs blew up the Latrun Water Pumping Station which was under UN control, 24 hours before the flow of water to Jerusalem was expected to be resumed, committing a flagrant violation of the cease-fire. This "represented the culmination of the deliberate policy of the Arab States to force 100,000 Jews of Jerusalem to capitulate by depriving them of water during the hottest season... with results too

horrible to contemplate," said Mr. Moshe Shertok, Israel's Foreign Minister.

25 years ago: On August 13, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that following the interception of the Iraqi-chartered Lebanese airliner by Israel Air Force, Arab terrorist leaders embarked on even more stringent security measures.

Alexander Zvielli

صكنا من الامم

Weekender

Trapped by a 'Lethal Weapon'

How many times can Danny Glover play the retiring detective Roger Murtaugh in the 'Lethal Weapon' series?



Wild: Mel Gibson (left) and Danny Glover infuse some typical buddy-buddy humor into a dangerous situation in 'Lethal Weapon IV.'

By MARK KENNEDY

Danny Glover is having a moment. A minute while I call my daughter," the raspy-voiced actor says, rising from a hotel sofa on a recent mid-morning to answer the telephone, and melting into his "Lethal Weapon" alter ego. "What's happening?" he asks into the receiver. "How you doing? Are you behaving yourself?" Even over the phone, his 21-year-old daughter fills the room with delighted giggles. "You old man, OK?"

Of course, she responds, no doubt melted by the same sort of dialogue, the doting family man Murtaugh would tell his on-screen daughter. "At least one big difference, though."

These were another installment of the Murtaugh-Riggs quartet, a wild-eyed Mel Gibson would shortly come burst into the hotel suite, sporting a heavy-metal haircut with twin .44-caliber mag-

nuns blazing, ready for some serious bad-guy-getting. But on this morning, at least, there are no fireworks. "OK, baby," Glover says, nestling the phone back onto its base with a delicate click. He returns, beaming.

Leaning back in his black jersey, cream-colored vest and dark dress pants, the 6-foot-4-inch (1.92-meter) Glover tackles the difficult topic of Murtaugh, his signature role and ever-present shadow. At 50, Glover is now as old as Murtaugh was when the first *Lethal Weapon* hit screens a decade ago. And now cinemas throughout the world are screening the fourth installment of the crackling, playfully escapist summer fare.

Just how long can the ever-retiring Murtaugh return? Can there be a *Lethal Weapon 5*? Or 6? Or 7? "I don't know," Glover ventures. "I hope we can lay him to rest, but I don't know. I really think it's over — but then again, I said that about the last one." Moreover, can Glover, a critically acclaimed actor of tremendous range, ever pay back his debt to Murtaugh and successfully move on? Glover's

last three starring pictures have been less than stellar. *Operation Dumbo Drop*, in which he played a GI fighting the Vietnam War while playing nursemaid to a lovable elephant, was an uneasy mixture of slapstick comedy and drama. *Gone Fishin'*, released early last year, had him playing a morose angler opposite an equally morose Joe Pesci — a callous attempt to cash in on the *Lethal* magic. It was a career low for both men.

And last winter's *Switchback*, fared no better. Glover starred as Bob Goodall, a sweet-talking drifter suspected of slicing his way through much of a Colorado town. The film shamelessly piggy-backed off the warm trust Glover had built with his audiences over the past few years — particularly his regular-guy Murtaugh.

All paths seem to lead back to Murtaugh. So why does a heaviness settle across Glover's face? "In a film like *Lethal Weapon*, I play a secondary role," he says nonchalantly.

Really? Can that be? After all, what set the Riggs-Murtaugh duo apart from other big-bang action epics was the chemistry — the

partnership, actually — between Glover and Gibson. "Check this out," he insists. "When Warner Bros. said they want to do *Lethal 4* they didn't come to me first because I'm not a primary player. They asked Mel first." Glover didn't get first crack at *Gone Fishin'*, either.

They asked Joe Pesci first. And when he was approached for *Switchback*, the Emmy-nominated actor had to fight for a meatier, co-starring role.

"Well," he says with a mischievous grin, "if you're not an exponent of change in some sort of ways, you are you here?"

Glover has been pushing for change since his counterculture youth. In the San Francisco of the 1960s, he planned student strikes and set up housing programs. As a leader of the Black Student Union in college, he was arrested during one bitter protest.

Glover, the activist-turned-actor, first made his mark in 1985 with his menacing portrayal of the brutal Mister in Steven Spielberg's *The Color Purple*. It was the same year he hit the actor's equivalent of the lottery — starring in three other consecutive A-level films: *Places in*

the Heart, *Silverado* and *Witness*.

Yet it took teaming up with Gibson in 1987 to gain the brass ring — even if it doesn't mean first crack at the script. Glover turned his newfound clout into bold projects that have explored homelessness (*The Saint of Fort Washington*), racism (*Grand Canyon*), apartheid (*Bophal and Mandela*), war (*Bat-21*) and the death penalty (*Dead Man Walking*).

He is a judge in Francis Ford Coppola's *John Grisham's The Rainmaker*, and he's reuniting with his *Color Purple* co-star Oprah Winfrey in an adaptation of Toni Morrison's novel *Beloved*.

More recently, Glover received critical acclaim for his portrayal of Sgt. Washington Wyatt in the TBS movie *Buffalo Soldiers*, which powerfully probed race relations in the Old West. Languishing in development purgatory for two decades, the film finally got made when Glover, who also signed on as executive producer, pushed hard for the project.

"I'm fortunate. I'm 50 years old. I come out of a time that informs my work. It informs the characters that I play and the things that I end up doing," Glover says. (AP)

Love & pain Sheinkin-style

By SONIE LEMOR

Sometimes it seems like there are more coffee shops in Tel Aviv than there are people. The latest in the cool and hip is the bar/restaurant/coffee shop Biennale. Located in the fashionable area of Sheinkin Street, Biennale attracts a very who's-who sort of bunch. For example actor Yehzekel Lazarov sits there on a regular basis. A definite advantage to this trendy joint is the fact that it is not on Sheinkin, but on the parallel street of Ba'alei Hamelacha, which is relatively quiet. Biennale is Italian for twice a year — it will change its art exhibits every six months.

I first came across Biennale in the late afternoon, when it was almost full. I sat inside, where it was air-conditioned — a big plus in the sticky Tel Aviv heat.

On the porch, about eight tables are served by an outside bar where one can get a cold beer or grab a snack to kill the early-evening munchies. There are about a dozen more tables inside, where work by artist Lasaro Radokvitz is on exhibit.

Most of his sculptures are rather explicit and come with subtitles such as "I love you therefore I hurt you," which give a good picture of the subject at hand.

In the main room, an exhibit of Shaini Bar's photography was a bit more tame and very good.

Although the service is rather slow, the food is excellent. I sat with a friend and we ordered a tuna salad — which was a bit like a niçoise — and a pâté of chicken liver and chicken teriyaki. The portions were large, delicious and aesthetically presented. The prices were average, NIS 39 for the salad. The waitress was cute and knowledgeable about the menu.

The atmosphere at Biennale is quite homey, with wooden tables and intimate lighting. Most of the patrons seemed to be regulars, judging by the way they lounged about, some with their feet up on a spare chair.

Biennale exudes the air of "neighborhood cafe" and is less pretentious than the basic see-and-be-seen scene of Sheinkin. I did, however, overhear a conversation about the casting of a new movie by two important-looking people who sat at the table next to the door.

Biennale is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. until at least 2 a.m.

Biennale, 9 Ba'alei Hamelacha Street, Tel Aviv

Yiddish on my mind

Director/actor Shmuel Atzmon talks about his favorite exponents of Yiddish culture

White-haired, rosy-cheeked, smiling, Shmuel Atzmon looks like the grandpa he is — there are two grandchildren — but don't let that calm benignity fool you.

Atzmon is a charismatic powerhouse promoter of Yiddish, the language and the culture that all but died in World War II. Only last week he came back from a vacation during which he made time to finalize the contract for his Yiddishspiel to appear at the Parma Festival in Italy next fall.

Atzmon is the founding artistic director of Yiddishspiel, which started as the Israel Yiddish Theater in 1987 on a minuscule budget and vast hopes. Today the theater has a loyal audience, a solid repertoire and, says Atzmon with no hint of irony, is the only Yiddish theater in the world whose actors are all Jews.

He was born in 1929 in Bilgoray, Poland, which is also Isaac Bashevis Singer's home town. "Let's just say I survived the war," he says and tells of how he came here as a volunteer in 1947, and fought with the Palmach in '48. In 1949 Atzmon was one of the first students at the now long defunct Ohel Studio. He also studied directing in the US and the UK, going on to direct more than 20 productions in the Hebrew theater as well as many of the productions in Yiddishspiel, including its latest production, *Gute Yontef, Yiddish*.



On stage, he had a successful and prize-winning career in Hebrew, playing some 100 leading roles in all the local repertory theaters. He also was part of the trio called The Three Shmueliks, or in Yiddish, *Die Kleine Menichelach*, which performed the works of Sholem Aleichem in their original Yiddish. Like most young Israelis of those early days, he'd initially ignored the Yiddish he'd grown up speaking. But like Saul on the road to Damascus, Atzmon had experienced his own revelation. The glories of Yiddish suffused and transformed him. He has never looked back.

But Sutzkover has transformed it into high art, a poetic form that can compare with Shakespeare. He expresses in his poetry the experiences so many of us suffered in World War II, and he mourns what the Holocaust did to Yiddish culture.

1. Isaac Loeb Peretz (1852-1915), author. "For me, he's the most profound of writers. He based his stories on everyday Jewish life and its traditions, both secular and religious, and because of this, he appealed to every sector and type of Jewish society. He wrote both in Hebrew and in Yiddish and his language had the richness and beauty of both. He should have been my grandfather, but my grandmother, who was a beautiful and educated woman, rejected him as too short and ugly!"
2. Avraham Sutzkover (b. 1913), poet. "He's simply a great poet and not enough people know about him. Yiddish is a folk language."
3. Isaac Bashevis Singer (1904-1991), author and Nobel Prize winner. "I love the sensuality of his work. He was writing fantastic realism before [Gabriel Garcia] Marquez and it's just as contemporary. Mind you, I think his brother, Yisrael Yishayahu, is also a great writer, and both have contributed enormously to the enrichment of Yiddish as literature. I knew Isaac Bashevis well. He was my mother's first boyfriend, and her father beat her because she went to the theater with him. He came here every year to visit her."
4. Morris Schwartz (1890-1960), actor and director. "He established his Yiddische Kuntztheater in New York to counter what he considered the cheap commercialism of the other Yiddish theaters. He did the great Yiddish classics and the world canon translated to Yiddish. He was a great theatrical entrepreneur. He came here in 1956 to direct and star in *Yosha Kalb*, but died a month after he got here. I consider him my mentor and like to think I'm continuing his tradition."
5. Dzigan (1908-72) and Schumacher (? -1963), comedians. "They are the Yiddish comedians of the century. They were famous even before the war. When they gave their first performance here in 1950, and Dzigan said 'Abi men zeytzich' — we meet again — they got a five-minute ovation. The audience was applauding and crying. I worked with Dzigan after Schumacher died, and it's mainly because of him I work in Yiddish today. Israeli humor laughs at people. Jewish humor, like Dzigan's, comes from the heart and laughs with people. That's where I want our humor to go." — Helen Kave

Hot tip

By HELEN KAVE

Tel Aviv

Those intrepid souls bothered less by the heat, who want to see what we've been up to these past 50 years, will find the Jubilee Exhibition at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds partially satisfying. The police put on an exciting show at their pavilion and the IDF has trotted out some impressive hardware. The kids can push buttons, turn handles and show off their computer skills to their hearts' content. But be sure to take food and drink. The fairgrounds concession stands overcharge outrageously. Free entertainment. Daily, 3-11 p.m. and Saturdays after Shabbat to midnight. Info: (03) 546-4333.

Wonderful soprano Larisa Tatuyev sings Tatiana, the spurned heroine of Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*, with tenor Yevgeny Shapovalev as Lensky, and baritone Viktor Kotik as Onegin. In Russian, at the Mandel Cultural Center in Jaffa on Saturday at 8:30 p.m. Info: (03) 681-9289/94.

And for those who like a bit of laughter with their music, Nanssi Brandes obliges with *Classicomedy* in the upper cellar at Beit Lessin, tomorrow at 10 p.m. Info: (03) 694-1111.

For dyed-in-the-wool culture vultures, there's *The Snob*, the '30s farce by German playwright Carl Sternheim, starring Doron Tavori at Habimartef on Saturday at 9:30 p.m. Box office: (03) 620-7777.

Jerusalem

Jerusalem is hot, but dry, and you can poke your nose outside. In fact, you can venture out altogether and go to the Arts & Crafts Fair or Hutzot Hayotzer, at the Sultan's Pool. At 8 p.m. there'll be a choir performance from the 18th Ballet Folklorico. Saturday the entertainer is Ehud Banai. The entry fee of NIS 30 includes the



Ehud Banai sings at Jerusalem's Arts & Crafts Fair on Saturday.

performance. Or, go hear Assaf Sirkis and the Inner Noise playing their own brand of jazz rock in the pleasant Bible Lands Museum garden on Saturday at 9:30 p.m. Info: (02) 561-1066.

But, for those who crave the cool, there's the sweetly nostalgic Habimah production of *Bustan Sfaradi* in Hebrew at the Jerusalem Theater tonight and on Saturday at 9 p.m. Tickets: (02) 560-5755.

There's a party going on tonight

on the giant terrace at the Iguana pub, overlooking the Lifta valley. From 9:30 p.m. till the wee hours a DJ will be spinning funky dance grooves. All the proceeds go to the Jerusalem AIDS Project, so grab your dancing shoes and tell your friends. Cover charge is NIS 30.

And Points Beyond

Shlomo Artzi is the big name at the Briza Festival in Ashkelon Park tonight, and his guest star is Sarit Hadad. His show is in the

amphi at 8:30. Tickets are available through agencies. Of course, you can go just for the beer — 30 different kinds — or the ethnic foods and free entertainment with performers like Shimon Parnes, the Parvarina Duo and the flamenco quintet of Hermina Rodriguez.

"An apple a day keeps the doctor away" is the old saying, and there'll be plenty of those and other fruit on display and on sale at the Apple Festival on the plaza outside the local council of Mevo'ot Hermon in Galilee today and tomorrow. There'll be activities for kids, street theater and musicians, walks, an agricultural exhibition, ethnic food stalls and more. It starts today at 5 p.m. and tomorrow from 9 a.m. to about 5 p.m. The good folk at the council say. Info: (06) 694-2121.

Whenever I see monkeys in the zoo, I'm never sure who's studying whom. You and the kids might want to go see for yourselves at Afrikaf "monkey park" in the Ben Shimon forest. There are other animals there too, a petting zoo for the little 'uns and all sorts of promotions and prizes in honor of the summer holidays. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and to 2 p.m. on Fridays. Info: (08) 928-5888.

Weekender Food & Drink

World-class skillet

Harried cooks from around the globe rely on the one-pan meal for versatility and speed. Think it could work for you?

By Ellise Pierce, Bettina Perez and Elizabeth Perez



The humble skillet. Simple, yet elegant in its design and always open to the possibility of transformation — to meeting culinary challenges beyond flapjacks or grilled cheese sandwiches. To giving you more than hamburgers or stove-top casseroles. To being more than the guy your mother always wanted you to date — dependable, trustworthy, and boring.

It's time to take a new look at your old friend. Not only is the skillet as versatile as all get out, but it also comes with a solid international pedigree and a secret soul that craves excitement.

There's no part of the world where one-pan meals aren't — and haven't been for centuries — bedrocks of cooking. From the ubiquitous Chinese wok to Thailand's *cherng kran* (a round earthenware tray used to hold both charcoal for fuel and a clay stir-frying pot) to the stewing kettles and cast-iron Dutch ovens of Russia, a durable and efficient basic implement lies at the heart of popular cuisine.

It seems only natural, then, to use the skillet as a port of entry to the flavors and textures associated with other members of the global one-pan family. Add coconut milk, Swiss chard, peanuts, and chicken, for instance, for an Indian skillet dinner. Fresh ginger, bok choy, and water chestnuts make a Chinese one-pan sauté. Basil, garlic, chickpeas, and fresh Parmesan cheese take you to the Mediterranean.

Quickly, too. Stirred up and ready to go, these handy dishes can fly from stove to plate in 40 minutes or less, with no luggage to check or customs to clear. And there's a final bonus: If you need only one pan to cook, you have only one to clean.

CHINESE SPICY GINGERED BEEF

Preparation time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes

340 gr. flank steak
1 Tbsp. cornstarch
2 tsp. olive oil
1 Tbsp. minced peeled fresh ginger
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 cup halved baby carrots
1/2 cup beef broth
2 Tbsp. soy sauce
1 Tbsp. hoisin sauce
1 Tbsp. dry white wine
1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper
240 gr. can sliced water chestnuts, drained
3 cups sliced bok choy
2 cups hot cooked long-grain rice

Trim fat from steak; cut steak diagonally across grain into thin slices. Combine steak and cornstarch. Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat until hot. Add onion and garlic; sauté 3 minutes. Add basil and next 5 ingredients (basil through tomatoes). Bring to a boil and reduce heat to medium. Cook 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Stir in chickpeas; cook 3 minutes. Add zucchini, cover and cook 3 minutes or until zucchini is tender. Discard bay leaves. Serve with rice; sprinkle with cheese. (Serves 4.)

and cook 4 minutes. Stir in bok choy, cover and cook for 2 minutes. Serve with rice. (Serves 4.)

MEDITERRANEAN CHICKPEAS WITH VEGETABLES

Preparation time: 10 minutes
Cooking time: 14 minutes

1 Tbsp. olive oil
1 cup diced onion
1 garlic clove, minced
2 tsp. dried basil
1/2 tsp. sugar
1/2 tsp. black pepper
1/2 tsp. salt
2 bay leaves
840-gr. can diced tomatoes, undrained
570-gr. can chickpeas, rinsed and drained
2 cups diced zucchini
2 cups hot cooked long-grain rice
1/2 cup grated fresh Parmesan cheese

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat until hot. Add onion and garlic; sauté 3 minutes. Add basil and next 5 ingredients (basil through tomatoes). Bring to a boil and reduce heat to medium. Cook 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Stir in chickpeas; cook 3 minutes. Add zucchini, cover and cook 3 minutes or until zucchini is tender. Discard bay leaves. Serve with rice; sprinkle with cheese. (Serves 4.)

INDIAN CHICKEN CURRY
Preparation time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 15 minutes

4 cups sliced Swiss chard
450 gr. skinned, boned chicken-breast halves, cut crosswise into thin slices
1 Tbsp. cornstarch
1 Tbsp. olive oil
1 cup diced onion
1 1/2 cups chicken broth
1 cup sliced baby carrots
1/2 cup coconut milk
1 Tbsp. tomato paste
2 tsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. curry powder
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 - 1/2 tsp. ground red pepper
2 cups hot cooked long-grain rice
3 Tbsp. chopped unsalted, dry-roasted peanuts

Steam Swiss chard, covered, 2 minutes or until crisp tender. Drain. Combine chicken and cornstarch in a small bowl.

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat until hot. Add onion and stir-fry 2 minutes. Stir in chicken and cook 4 minutes or until browned.

Stir in broth and next 8 ingredients (broth through red pepper) and reduce heat to medium. Cook 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add Swiss chard and cook 2 minutes.

Serve with rice. Sprinkle peanuts evenly over each serving. (Serves 4.)

Creators Syndicate, Inc.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

in pasta dishes or salads; recipes are printed on the label. A 200 gr. package costs NIS 11.99. The recipe below, recommended by the company for its chilled salad product, also would be suitable for the sticks.

CHEF HAYAM WALDORF SALAD

You may find the salad needs more dressing.

1 package Chef Hayam sticks
150 gr. finely grated cabbage
1 apple, grated
finely chopped green onion to taste

for the sauce:
1 tsp. mayonnaise
1 tsp. yogurt
pinch salt
pinch black pepper

Slice the sticks widthwise into medium slices (if they are sliced too thin they will fall apart). Mix with the cabbage, apple and onion. Mix together the ingredients for the dressing and pour over the salad. Chill, covered, until serving time. (Serves 2-4.)

Black beer (good)

Tempo Industries is now producing Malstar black beer in 500-ml. cans, as well as in the 300-ml. cans that already are available. Though it is hard to believe, the black-beer market accounts for \$32 million annually, and Tempo holds 95 percent of the market. My taste testers were pleased. The large can is

sold for NIS 3.50 to NIS 4 throughout the country.

Monaco ice cream (not recommended) Strauss has added two new flavors to its Monaco Ice Cream line: apricot brandy and vanilla with cookies. According to my taste-testers, the apricot brandy flavor was "a clumsy imitation of Haagen Dazs mixed ice cream and sorbet. The apricot was too thickly swirled in, without any delicacy, and overpowered the whole thing."

The vanilla with cookies, made with cookies filled with cream and hazelnuts, was "junky, but creamy with a good texture. You have to like really sweet ice cream though."

Both flavors, sold in 0.5-liter containers, cost NIS 24.90 each.

King of burekas (excellent) If you're looking for really good homemade-style burekas for a party, try Burekas shelima ("Mom's Burekas") from 46 Levinsky St. in south Tel Aviv. They really melt in your mouth. Burekas shelima delivers large orders in the Tel Aviv area. Call 050-310362 or (03)-681-8494 in the evenings to order.

New from Burger King

(better than beef) The Flamer, a barbecued chicken burger, is a new product available at Burger King outlets. This fowl dinner comes together with a drink and chips for NIS 23.90. I'm not a fan.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

What does canola oil contain and why is it said to be so good for you?

—Gertl Urman, Kibbutz Lavi

Canola oil is made from the seeds of rape, a plant in the cabbage family. The round black seeds have a flavor similar to that of sesame seeds, but are slightly sweeter. Years ago, manufacturers tried to sell rapeseed oil in the US, but the name, unsurprisingly, never caught on. They decided to try again using the Canadian name Canola, which is short for Canadian oil, low acid.

Cold-pressed canola oil is preferable and has a richer flavor

than refined oil. Canola oil contains much less saturated fat, and much more monounsaturated fat, than many other oils. It also contains omega-3 fatty acids and has a high smoking point. (To preserve the omega-3s, it should not be used for deep frying.)

Is catnip edible for humans?

—Allison Berger, Jerusalem

Although virtually everyone thinks of catnip as a pacifier for cats, catnip leaves have been a part of herbal medicine for centuries. Catnip is a member of the mint family and its leaves add a minty flavor to salads. If you have fresh young leaves, you can make pesto with them.

I have a recipe I'd like to try that calls for ground sesame seeds. Does this mean that I'm supposed to use tahini?

—Meira Kahn, Beersheba

Ground sesame seeds are sesame seeds ground in a blender or coffee grinder (don't

over-grind or all the oil will burn it into a paste). They have a different consistency from tahini, which is a smooth ground paste.

Do you know of anywhere in Israel where I can buy a truck pot?

Arnold Sable, Kibbutz Kabri

Sorry, I don't know where you can get a truck pot, but perhaps readers can help.

A Wonderpot, which sometimes can be found in a skillet, is something of a substitute since foods can be cooked in it at very low heat for long periods of time.

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted at The Jerusalem Post Magazine, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by e-mail: phyllisglazer@jpost.co.il.

Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes; as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine on Friday.

Wine Cellar

Beer at Briza

By NOGA TAROPOLSKY

If anyone else finds it difficult to keep track of all the various food, drink and music festivals this summer, it is beginning to seem that instead of enjoying a treat at a good restaurant one week, a concert another, a few films here and there, and a good bottle of wine, we simply shove it all down in one mindless rush during the summer.

So, in risk of repeating about another festival to a crowd already fired of them, I recommend that you rush to Ashdod tonight for the final night of Briza, Ashdod's fourth international music festival.

What makes this festival different from all other festivals is not the music, despite the surprise appearance of a group of 14 Cubans called Chabazim.

What makes it different, and is likely to provide pleasure to more than a few festival-jaded beer-loving individuals, is the promise of an opportunity to taste 30 beers that Carlsberg imported especially for the event. For anyone who loves to spend a long summer evening by the sea drinking beer, or anyone who just needs a breezy break from the extreme heat we have been enduring, this is undoubtedly the place to go.

Some of the beers already appear on our shelves, others do not but are well known and get others should be a new experience for us.

The selection includes beers from Croatia, Finland and Italy, in addition to German, Danish and Irish beers.

Since I am partial to Irish beverages, I will start with the Irish "contributions," which include Guinness Draught (a superior stout, for those who have not yet tried it), as well as Clontarf, Kilkenny beer and Harp Lager.

England is represented by John Hall Bitter, Tetley's Bitter, Draught Diamond Super and Double Diamond Burton Pale Ale. Carlsberg and Tuborg, which are sponsoring the festival, will present almost their entire line of products, including items made both here and abroad.

The fare also includes much less common beers, such as Italy's Peroni, a light but tasty Pilsener-style beer; Poland's Okocim, a heavy, amber beer; and Finland's Karhu, a light, delicately flavored beer with a relatively high alcohol content of 4.6%.

Tonight, in addition to the beers, you can enjoy Shifano Anzi's performance at the festival.

Chutney change-up

This fruit-based condiment has left its home in India to shake up conventional meals around the world

Fruits, vegetables, spices, and vinegars combine in chutneys to produce a range of flavors as varied and complex as the Indian subcontinent that inspired them. Today you can find these sweet, tangy condiments, in strengths from mild to hot, in almost any supermarket from London to Los Angeles.

Although once considered exotic, chutneys now are considered an alternative to traditional condiments such as ketchup or mustard. Amenable to almost any food, chutneys can be used to glaze meat and poultry or to adding to a salad dressing.

Plus, whether it is based on mangoes, bananas, raisins, or any other fruit, chutney is usually low in fat. And remember, chutneys of any strength

are piquant and flavorful, so a little goes a long way — as a world-class condiment should.

BARBECUED FLANK STEAK WITH CHUTNEY-BOURBON GLAZE

Preparation time: 15 minutes
Marinating time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 16 minutes

450 gr. flank steak
1/2 cup peach chutney
1/2 cup pineapple juice
3 Tbsp. bourbon or apple juice
1 1/2 Tbsp. rice wine vinegar
1 1/2 Tbsp. hot pepper sauce
1/4 tsp. salt
2 garlic cloves, minced
Prepare grill or broiler.

Trim fat from steak. Combine steak and remaining ingredients in a large zip-top plastic bag. Seal and marinate in refrigerator 15 minutes. Remove steak from bag, reserving marinade.

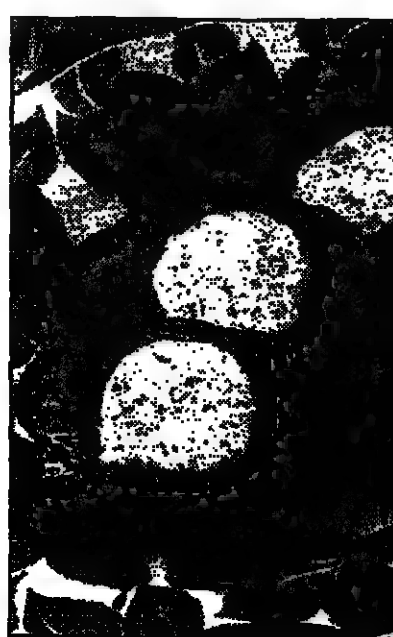
Place steak on a grill rack or broiler pan. Cook 8 minutes on each side or until desired degree of doneness. Cut steak diagonally across grain into thin slices. Keep warm.

Pour reserved marinade into a small saucepan. Bring to a boil and cook 1 minute, stirring occasionally. Serve with steak. (Serves 4.)

CARIBBEAN SWEET POTATO AND-BLACK BEAN SALAD

Preparation time: 25 minutes
Cooking time: 6 minutes

1 cup cubed peeled sweet potato
1/4 cup banana chutney
2 Tbsp. fresh lime or lemon juice
2 tsp. olive oil
1 tsp. Dijon mustard
1/4 tsp. salt



1/2 tsp. pepper
1 garlic clove, minced
1/2 cup sliced green onions, divided
450 gr. can black beans, rinsed and drained
3 cups torn spinach

Steam sweet potato, covered, 5 minutes or until tender. Cool.

Combine chutney and next 6 ingredients (chutney through garlic) in a large bowl and stir well with a whisk. Add sweet potato, 1/2 cup onions and beans; stir well to coat.

Place 1 cup spinach on each of 3 plates, top with 2/3 cup bean mixture, and sprinkle evenly with remaining onions. (Serves 3.)

CURRIED LAMB AND SPINACH BURGERS

Preparation time: 25 minutes
Cooking time: 15 minutes
We prepared this with a chutney made from cauliflower, cantaloupe, currants and walnuts.

450 gr. lean ground lamb
1/2 cup fresh bread crumbs
1/2 cup savory chutney
1 tsp. curry powder
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper
300 gr. package frozen chopped spinach, thawed, drained, and squeezed dry
2 garlic cloves, minced
4 onion sandwich buns
1/4 cup savory chutney

Combine the first 8 ingredients in a medium-sized bowl. Divide the lamb mixture into 4 equal portions and shape into 1cm-thick patties.

Prepare grill or broiler. Place the patties on a grill rack or broiler pan and cook 7 minutes on each side or until the lamb is done. Place the patties on bottom halves of sandwich buns and spread each patty with 1 Tbsp. savory chutney. Cover with sandwich bun tops. (Serves 4.)

Creators Syndicate, Inc.

Back to the shtetl

Day Tripper

By Haim Shapiro

This tailor still makes coats, the shoemaker still makes shoes and the goats still wander about in the market square in Medzibezh, just as they did when the Ba'al Shem Tov lived and taught there.

But this is not Ukraine, where the Jewish community was wiped out by the Nazis, but a Medzibezh created in Kfar Habad to mark the 300th birthday of the founder of Hassidism.

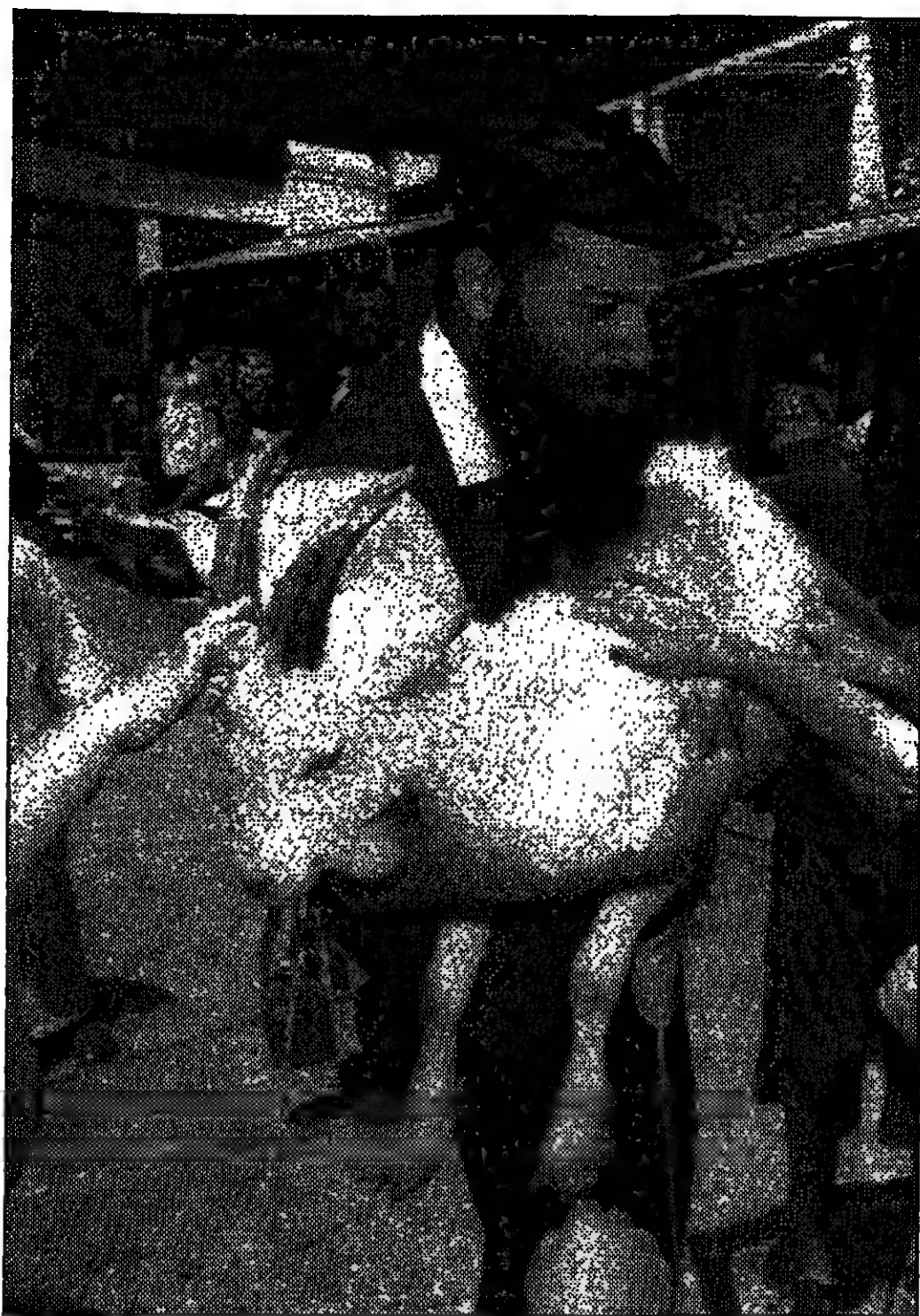
Entering what appears to be an ordinary administrative building, we find ourselves transported into a bygone age.

The entrance is through a "time tunnel," complete with strobe lights and smoke. We come out in the shtetl, as it existed before the rise of Hassidism.

Our guide, a young woman from the Habad teachers' seminary, explains that at the time, the main synagogue was for the rich and the learned — the poor artisans prayed in a hovel. We inspect a diorama of the "rich Jews' synagogue and listen to our guide tell the tale of Yisrael, an orphan who would find solitude in the forest.

She then takes us into the "forest" and tells us to hold on to a tree.

What follows is an impressionistic



reproduction of an 18th-century painted wooden synagogue from eastern Europe. Inside, a figure wrapped in a

tallit tells the children that all Jews have a spiritual connection with their Creator and that the soul of every Jew is precious.

FROM here, the time tunnel leads us outside to the Medzibezh market, where the children are encouraged to help one of the various artisans: tailors, shoemakers, hat makers, a bagel baker, a woman making paper flowers and a man pressing oil. Each child comes away with a little souvenir: a paper hat, a kerchief, a small container of oil or a paper flower. The market has a well in the center and a goat pen on one side.

According to Nicole Gamliel, who created the facility together with Yehudit Feigin, the market in Medzibezh, Ukraine today is much the same as the one in Kfar Habad. It also is not much different from the one known by the Baal Shem Tov.

"It hasn't changed much in 300 years," Gamliel said.

From the market, a visiting group of children proceeded to the highlight of the day, a ride in a horse cart. The cart lets the children off for a performance by a Kfar Habad stand-up comedian, whose routine stresses that every Jew has a precious soul.

"If I have any talent, it's not my doing. It comes from the Almighty," he told the children after the show.

The Kfar Habad Shtetl is particularly appropriate for small children whose parents want to give them a basic understanding of Hassidism.

In keeping with the tenets of Habad hassidim, which views technology as an expression of creation, the Shtetl employs sophisticated technology to get its message across.

As one would expect in Kfar Habad, there is a steady stream of Hassidic music which seemed to be quite authentic. Only once did a tune from *Fiddler on the Roof* creep in.

Visits for both groups and individual families should be arranged in advance. Tel. (03) 960-7588, ext. 128. Admission for individual families is NIS 17 per person.



(Top left) Goats wander about in the shtetl recreated in Kfar Habad to mark the 300th birthday of the Ba'al Shem Tov. From the "forest" (top right), the guide brings visitors to an impressionistic reproduction of an 18th-century synagogue from eastern Europe (above). (Left) In the reconstructed Medzibezh market, children are encouraged to help various artisans, such as this one pressing oil.



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Weekender Leisure

Heading for fall

Flair By Greer Fay Cashman

It seems amazing that while we're sweltering through one of the hottest summers on record, fashion houses are already showing their fall/winter collections.

Israeli fashion houses, at least, have just begun to show their fall collections. Those in Milan, Paris, London and New York showed theirs a few weeks back.

The shows indicate there's definitely change in the air. Forget about your miniskirts. They are finally going to be passé — except perhaps on the cocktail circuit, where a body-conscious slip dress or strapless tube with a mid-thigh or knee-grazing hemline may still get by.

This might make it a good idea to go out and see what local garment manufacturers such as Dan Casidi, Castro, Honigman, Aristoshmat, Niba, Rosh Indiani and Cafe are still flogging in their summer sales. A couple of good bargains in the little black dress department may see you right through the winter. It's equally safe to buy black, white, silver or scarlet.

But though minis may still make an entrance at party time, the most popular skirts in the fashion capitals of the world are now long, lean and calf length. Designers have made concessions for those women whose figures are not conducive to pencil skirts and have produced dirmdls and bell-shaped pleated varieties, though these are not quite as chic.

Layering is also the hottest (pardon the pun) feature of fall/winter dressing: cropped jackets over tank tops over tunics over wrapped skirts over pants. And if that's not sufficiently warming, add a hooded cape.

While the column skirt and the sheath dress are the dominants of the fall/winter apparel scene, everything else looks like the fashion grab bag of the century, with revivals of Twenties to Sixties creations such as long cardigan coats, funnel-necked sweaters, palazzo and slouch pants teamed with precision-tailored jackets; fur trims, chunky tweeds, exotic kimonos and deluxe sportswear.

IN GENERAL, Israeli men tend to be more casual than women, although yuppies have taken to wearing suits more frequently.

Gershon Bram, one of the first local designers to unveil his fall/winter collection, chose to show his menswear lines first, giving new meaning to the definition of casual suit.

Bram's jackets, which tend to be single breasted, are almost but not quite unstructured, and instead of having only one- or two-button fastenings, have buttons trailing from just below the collar or high on the chest.

Pants are loose fitting and comfortable and slouch at the ankle. Vests are square cut, skimming the waist and buttoning up to the collar bone.

Bram showed his two- and three-piece suits over long T-shirts or open-necked sports shirts without ties, to emphasize that this is an unconstricted look.

Though equally informal, Yossi Katz, who works for Castro, had a completely different concept, with his semi-shirted shot velvet T-shirt which debuted at the recent showing by Shenkar College graduates.

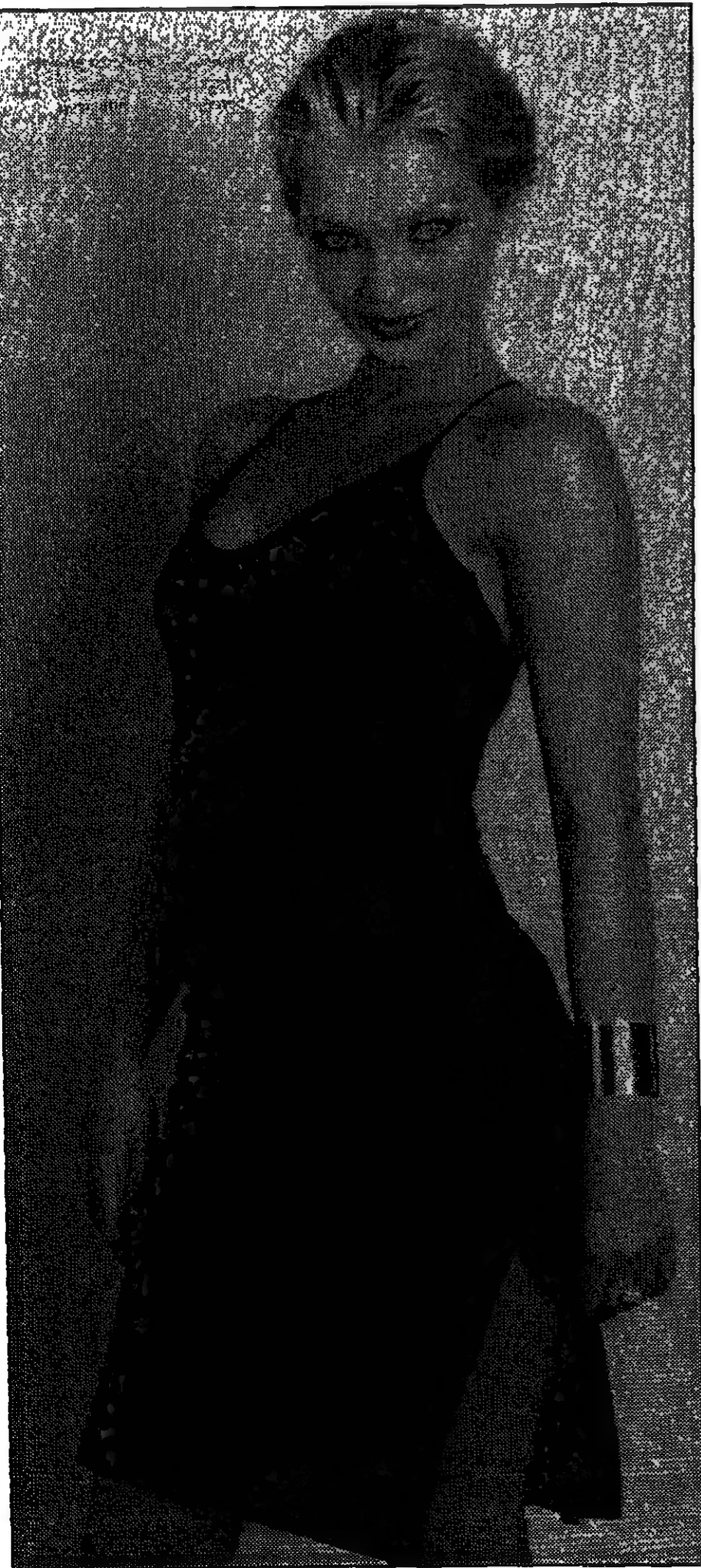
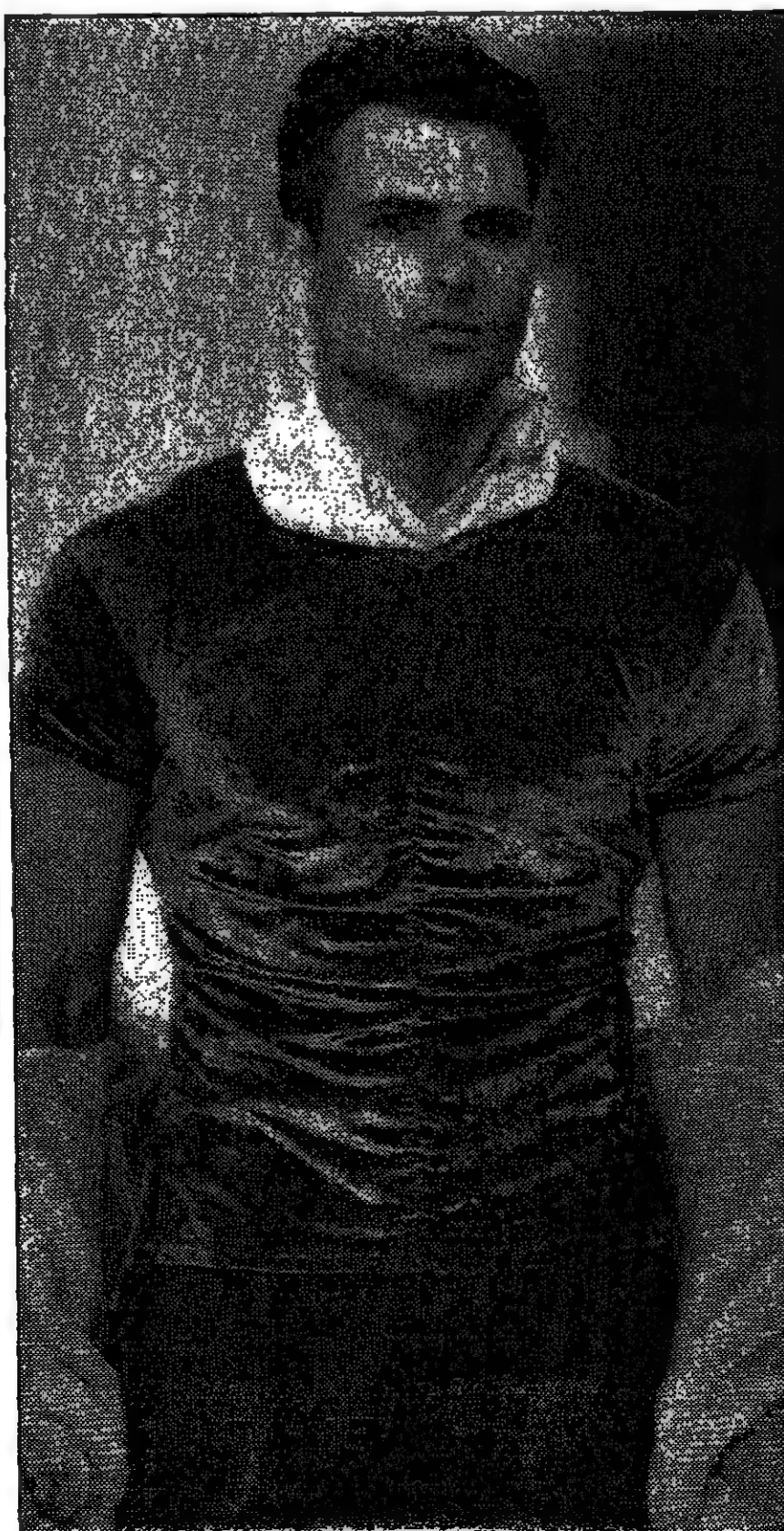
Unlike your average T-shirt, the one designed by Katz features a vertical center seam from which the fabric drapes slightly, giving the impression of rippling muscles although the overall effect is not quite macho.

Winter being what it is, colors for both him and her will be mostly muted, relieved occasionally by vivid shades of red, pink, yellow and orange.



The vest in this casual Gershon Bram suit skims the waist and buttons right up to the collar bone.

Unlike your average T-shirt, this one designed by Yossi Katz features a vertical center seam from which the fabric drapes slightly, giving the impression of rippling muscles. (Sivan Farag)



A couple of good bargains in the little black dress department, like this Dan Casidi design, can be worn right through the winter on the party circuit.

Bridge Son gives dad a hand

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
North-South vulnerable

North (Richard)		East	
♠ 962	♥ 106	♠ J105	♥ 4
♦ AQ863	♣ KJ10	♦ J1095	♣ 7432
West		South (Rich Jr.)	
♠ A8743	♥ QJ972	♠ KQ	♥ AK853
♦ 7	♣ 96	♦ K42	♣ A85

South West North East
1♥ 2♣ double 3♠
3NT (all pass)

Opening lead: ♠4

When I was a boy, I loved to play bridge with my father as a partner. He rarely got angry with me and, as his son, I could never raise my voice to him. It was a perfect partnership. We especially enjoyed playing against the famous B. J. Becker, partnered by either of his two sons, Michael or Steve. They won numerous tournaments and were probably the best father-son duo in history. Another famous father-son pair was Oswald Jacoby and his son, Jim.

In the 1990s, a new father-son partnership has become prominent: Richard Pavlicek and his son, Rich Jr. They're from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where father is one of the most successful bridge teachers in the country, thanks in part to the organizational efforts of his wife, Mabel. He also hosts an enjoyable Web page: <http://www.gate.net/~pavlicek>.

At the recent American Summer Nationals in Chicago, the Pavliceks lost the Life Master Pairs by the smallest margin in history. (Indeed, this tournament saw record-breaking margins in the teams, as well, where the final and a semifinal were decided by a single point — more on this in future columns.)

The winners of the Life Master Pairs, a grueling six-session affair, were Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson. Greco, 23, of Philadelphia, is an options trader, and Hampson, 29, of Michigan, is a professional player. Their score of 1,726.88 was just enough to keep them ahead of the second-place Pavliceks, who turned in a final score of 1,726.03. The fractional difference is incredibly close, since top on a board was 51.

Probably a single overtrick would have made the difference.

Greco and Hampson got off to a great start in the first session of the final, scoring a monstrous 68.9 percent against the strong field. The pair cooled off somewhat in the second session, but hung on to win. "We played really well in the first half," said Hampson. "The results in the second half were more mixed. I think we had something like a 54% game in the last half, but it was enough...barely."

The Pavliceks were understandably disappointed by their near-miss. It would have been the first National victory for them as a pair. Their result, however, is the best finish they have had as a partnership in a major event (Richard Sr. has won numerous titles partnered by Bill Root). I asked them for an interesting hand, where one trick was vital, and Richard showed me today's deal, played by his son in the fourth session.

The East-West bidding may not appeal to everyone, but it's typical of aggressive players at favorable vulnerability. South's five-spade call was preemptive (usually showing a six-card suit) and North's double was negative, showing game-invitational values — it said nothing about spades. The final contract was touch-and-go: three notrump by South.

Rich Jr. won the opening lead in his hand (East played the 10) and attacked diamonds with the king and a diamond to the queen. West discarded a heart and now Rich made a beautiful play. He led dummy's six of spades toward his singleton honor. From the fourth-trick lead, he deduced that West held only a five-card suit originally. If West started with ace-jack five times, the defenders had only four tricks to cash, and Rich would increase his chances of guessing the queen of clubs (or perhaps avoid the guess if West returned a club).

On the actual layout, the spade suit blocked. East, who had played the 10 of spades on the opening lead, now followed with the five and West won the ace. A spade was returned to East's jack. But now spades were out of the picture. East shifted to the four of hearts. Declarer won the ace and led a diamond to the ace, followed by a fourth round of diamonds. East won and was forced to break clubs. So declarer took 10 tricks: one spade, two hearts, four diamonds and three clubs, for a precious overtrick and a near top score.

Readers may contact Matthew Granovetter by email at granovetter@netvision.net.il

Chess The tying Dutchmen

By MIGUEL SHORT

The Netherlands is a pretty good place to live, especially if you are a chess player.

The first foreign grandmaster to base himself in Holland in the early 1970s was the amiable Genna Sosonko from Russia. He was joined briefly by fellow Leningrader Viktor Korchnoi before the latter moved on to Switzerland.

In recent years, though, a veritable gaggle of chess players has descended upon the country, most notably Predrag Nikolic and Ivan Sokolov from Bosnia, Sergei Tiiviakov from Russia, Roberto Cifuentes from Chile, and the Chinese women players Peng Zhaoqin and Xie Jun.

While Holland is perhaps not quite the chess mecca it once was (having been eclipsed by Spain in both quantity and quality of events), it is still a great place to play.

A recent match was held between their two leading players, Jan Timman and Loek van Wely. The contrast between the protagonists could hardly have been greater. Timman, 46, cultured, urbane, a wine connoisseur with a prodigious appetite for life's pleasures, against van Wely, 25, an abstemious fitness fanatic with limited interests outside the checkered board.

The result was a well-fought tie. Van Wely initially surged ahead but was eventually hauled back by more spirited attacking from the more experienced man.

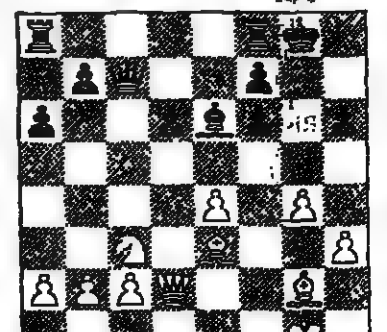
White: Jan Timman
Black: Loek van Wely
Holland, 1998

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. Be3 One of the sharpest treatments of the Najdorf Variation. With important developments occurring practically on a weekly basis, it is difficult to give an accurate picture of things. Suffice it to say 6...Ng4 was recently dealt a heavy blow by Kasparov (against Topalov) and Shirov, who strengthened White's resources in the wild 6...c6 7. g4! line. 6...Nc6 7. h3? Angling for a

Keres Attack, with which van Wely has had little practice. 7...e6 8. g4 Be7 9. Bg2 h6 10. ♖d1 An important move, brottening the pawn front and hampering Black's g5 advance.

Possibly Black should now consider the retreat 10...Nd7, with the intention of meeting 11...0-0 with the aforementioned thrust. Anyway it is true to say the Black's response over the next few moves is not the most opportune. 10...Qe7 11. 0-0 Nxd4 conceding more time. 12. Qxd4 e5 13. Qd2 exd4 14. Rxd4 Be6 15. Ra1! preparing a pretty obvious sacrifice. 15...Nf5 Van Wely obviously saw what was coming but he was in a quandary as 15...Nd7 runs into trouble after 16. Nd5 Bxd5 17. Qxd5 16...Rxf6 Bxf6 17. Rxf6 gxf6

Black: (van Wely)



White: (Timman) to play

So far, so good, but how should one continue? 18...Qf2! Excellent. This is superior to 18...Bd4 Kh7 19. Qf4 Rg8 which gives good prospects for defense. 18...Kg7? A blunder! which loses to a beautiful combination. 18...Qe7! was much more tenacious. 19. e5! fxe5 20. Bxb6+ Kg6 20...Kxh6 21. Qh4 Kh7 22. Be4+ Kg8 23. Qg5+ Kh8 24. Qh6+ Kg8 25. Qh7 mate 21. Qh4 threatening mate in two. After 21...Rg8 22. Ne4! (if 22...Qd7 23. Qh5+ Kh7b 24. Bf8 mate) the attack crashes through. Black resigns. A lovely game.

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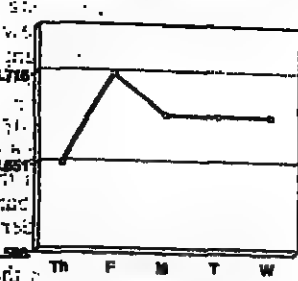
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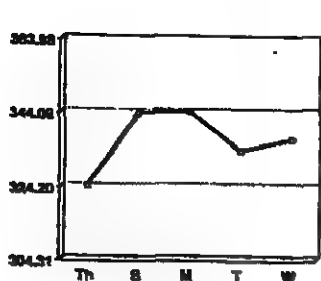
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in brief

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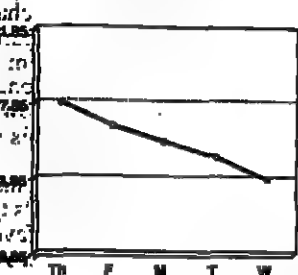


MAOF INDEX



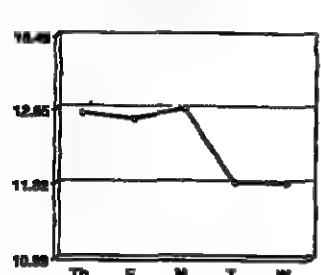
GOLD

\$ per ounce



OIL

\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



Railways start TA-Beersheba line upgrade

Israel Railways has begun upgrading the Tel Aviv-Beersheba rail line, which the state-owned company says will ultimately cut travel time to 50 minutes from the present 90. Railways Director-General Amos Uzani said a new track will be constructed between Tel Aviv and Na'an, and will include modern signaling. The work is expected to last about five months and cost NIS 100 m. The line will be extended into the center of Beersheba, with a new station near Ben-Gurion University. The station at Kiryat Gat will be upgraded, with a new roofed passenger platform, a pedestrian overpass, and a parking lot. Meanwhile, trains from Tel Aviv to Beersheba are being rerouted via Ashkelon and Hertzliya, using air conditioned rail cars, Uzani said. *Sybil Ehrlich*

Moody's downgrades Japan's LTCB

In another blow to a struggling Japanese bank, Moody's Investors Service yesterday downgraded its credit ratings for the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan Ltd. LTCB was reported in June to be on the verge of collapse as Moody's downgraded its debt, and its shares on the Tokyo Stock Exchange became almost worthless overnight. Debt-plagued LTCB later announced it was in talks to merge with Sumitomo Trust and Banking Co. a move widely assumed to have been coordinated as a virtual bailout for LTCB. LTCB officials also have said, however, that their bank is in no danger of failing. In yesterday's downgrade, Moody's lowered LTCB's long-term deposit rating to just above speculative, or junk-bond status. Its senior debt rating fell to speculative grade. LTCB's short-term deposit rating was confirmed at Prime-3, the lowest level of investment grade. *AP*

Lebanon truckers protest tourist-season curbs

Lebanese trucking companies are to begin an open-ended strike today to protest a government decision to curb trucks during the tourist season, newspapers said yesterday. Unions representing truck owners and the quarrying industry decided on the strike at a meeting Tuesday that was called to discuss the decision by the governor of Mount Lebanon Province, Mohammed Subeii Yammout, to ban trucks from driving during the morning rush hour and restricting them to certain roads after that. Yammout says the ban will apply to September 30. The *Daily Star* newspaper said the quarries would go on strike yesterday and truck companies would follow today. Truck drivers have been blamed for aggravating Lebanon's long traffic jams and for causing road accidents. *AP*

Jordan boosts natural gas output

Jordan has boosted its production of natural gas by 26 percent, owing to increased output from an eastern field, the chairman of the National Petroleum Company said yesterday. Thabet Taber said further drilling at a natural gas field in Rishbeh, 270 kilometers northeast of the capital Amman, had increased output from 15,000 cubic meters a day to more than 210,000 cubic meters a day. *AP*

Steinmetz group joins Discount tender

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The Steinmetz group yesterday joined the Keil and Eliahu groups in bidding for controlling stake in Israel's third largest bank by depositing the required \$20 million.

Tel Aviv lawyer Ram Caspi, who coordinates the group, said it is still looking for another partner. "We received a dozen offers from private investors who expressed interest in joining the group, but we are looking for an institutional investor," Caspi said. He added, however, that currently the group is not negotiating with any such group.

The group is led by diamond trader Benjamin Steinmetz (70%) and US investment company Texas Pacific Group Partners (30%).

The Eliahu and Keil groups deposited the sum on Tuesday. The Eliahu group is led by insurer Shlomo Eliahu and his partners in control of Union Bank - David Lubinsky, the local Peugeot/Citroen importer, and investor Yeshayahu Landan, a stakeholder in Granit Hacarmel.

The two other members are Delek Israel, which is controlled by contractor Yitzhak Tshuva, and C.P. Holdings, which is controlled by Bernard Schreier, an Anglo-Jewish entrepreneur who is a partner in Bank Leumi UK and Switzerland, and controls hotels properties in Israel. Each of the members of the group holds a 20% stake.

The third group is led by former Safra family banker Jeffrey Keil, who has previously failed to acquire a controlling stake in Bank Hapoalim, and US insurance company Locadia National Corporation.

The three groups will now have to win the approval of the Bank of Israel to start the due diligence process for the bank.

Caspi said that he expects a serious competition. "Those are excellent opponents. I believe that the competition will be fair but tough."

Eliahu said that he believes that his group can solve Discount's problems including its troubled labor relations. "We are the most serious local candidates to solve Discount's problems," Eliahu said. "Five years ago Union Bank was also suffering from a serious labor dispute, but we managed to solve the problems and revive the bank."

Discount, which is currently seen as the least efficient bank in Israel, has suffered from a bitter labor dispute, which last month reached a new peak with a five-day lockout declared by the management.

Established in 1935, Israel's third largest bank has 260 branches through the country, with consolidated assets of \$24.6 billion, 800 employees, and net profits of NIS 199.9m. for 1997. The bank controls a local commercial subsidiary in the US, Israel Discount Bank of New York which, with assets of \$3.79b., is the largest Israeli bank in the US.

In addition, the bank has branches in the Cayman Islands and the Bahamas, as well as agencies in Miami and Los Angeles. Discount also has representative offices in Santiago, Chile; Sao Paulo, Brazil; and Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The bank holds a 26.4% stake in the First International Bank of Israel and 65% of Discount Mortgage Bank. In addition it fully owns Mercantile Discount Bank, which is operated independently.

Industry exports rise 4.9% since January

By NINA GILBERT

Industrial exports in the first seven months of the year, including diamonds, rose by 4.9% compared with the same period in 1997, and by 9.8% - to \$8.9 billion - excluding diamonds, the Industry and Trade Ministry announced yesterday.

In July alone, however, industrial exports fell by 1 percent compared with the same period last year, reflecting the decline in diamond sales to Asia.

Excluding diamonds, industrial exports rose 3.5%, led by growth in the high-tech sector. Diamond exports were down 12.2% in July compared with the same month last year, totaling \$449 million. At the same time, the July sales, after taking seasonal factors into account, were higher than June, when diamond exports totaled \$262m.

The highest growth in industrial exports last month was in telecommunications, medical technology, electronic components, office machines, and computers. Other sectors experienced declines or no growth, while in textiles and leather there was significant growth.

From January through July, 86 percent of industrial growth, excluding diamonds, in the period - some \$794m. - was in the high-tech sector. Half of this gain was in telecommunications and medical technology.

Sales declined or slowed in traditional sectors, including food and drinks and jewelry, with the exception of textiles, which grew by 8.8%, and wood, furniture and paper, with 9% growth.



Greens campaign at Kohl's expense

Greens Party spokeswoman Gunda Roessel unveils a new election poster in front of party headquarters in Bonn. The poster shows what the Greens see as the negative effects of Kohl's economic policy since 1982. *(Reuters)*

PM seeks further shekel adjustment

By DAVID HARRIS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu intends implementing a further alteration in the shekel exchange rate mechanism in some 12 months, according to an official in the Prime Minister's Office.

The next element, according to the aide, will be a readjustment of the lower band in the shekel-flotation range to zero percent, which Netanyahu hopes will also be the difference between Israeli and most Western inflation levels.

The adjustment announced last week, from a 4-percent to a 2% slant, reflected the dramatic narrowing already achieved in recent months of

the gap between foreign and domestic inflation levels and subsequent interest rates.

The so-called diagonal mechanism allows the shekel to appreciate or depreciate against the basket of major currencies (US dollar, Japanese yen, German mark, British pound, and French franc) by 15% in either direction, before central bank intervention becomes necessary. The central diagonal line between the bands, set at zero, is a reflection of the difference between Israel's inflation target and inflationary estimates among its major trading partners.

In June last year, the Bank of Israel said that, while the slope of the upper band would remain at 6%, the lower band was to rise to only 4%. Last week's change pushed the lower band

down to 2%, while also including a 4% inflation goal for 1999 and a 1.5% rate cut.

Part of the overall aim of the rate cut was to help exporting businesses, at the same time ensuring there is no capital flight as Israel's interest rates come more in line with those in the Western world.

"This started a year ago," said the official. "The steps taken last week were only the second stage of the process and flattening the bottom of the trading band in about a year will be the third and final stage. We're not talking about completely abolishing the diagonal. The steps taken last week prevented a crisis, not necessarily in a week or two weeks but certainly in the coming months."

Experts: Introduce tax reform gradually

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The government should adopt a multi-year tax reform rather than implement the one-off plan suggested by the Finance Ministry, Israel Discount Bank's economists recommend in a report published yesterday.

The gradual introduction of reforms has a bigger chance of being approved by the Knesset, they explained. "The idea is that not everything should be done at once," one of them said. "Such a plan should be spread over three years."

He added that for practical reasons the Treasury will not be able to cover all taxation aspects by

the end of the year, saying that setting targets with specific deadlines seems to be more reasonable.

In a report, Discount said that the change in tax system must include the widening of tax base and the lowering of top tax brackets in order to increase productivity and encourage growth at the business sector.

An extensive tax reform must be based on wide social consensus and requires the approval of the Histadrut and the representatives of different sectors.

In the report Discount economists say that the recent rate cut and the changes in the foreign currency regime will have a posi-

tive impact on the capital markets. The markets might be hurt, however, by decreasing activity in the building sector and the ongoing Asian crisis.

Discount forecasts that the budget deficit, excluding income from fees paid by the Partner Group for the license to become the third cellular provider, will reach 3.5% of GDP this year. The figure is 1% above the official target and higher than the deficit recorded last year.

Inflation is expected to reach 3.6% in 1998, although Discount predicts that prices will rise by 4.5% next year. The experts believe that the economy will grow 2.5% in 1999, with GDP per

capita remaining unchanged. Unemployment is expected to reach an average of 9.5% in 1999. The economists added that the only way to prevent further increase in the number of jobless is by applying a fiscal policy based on reducing taxes, increasing investments in infrastructure, and lowering transfer payments such as social security payments, together with the operation of focused plans for professional training.

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CalEnergy to buy MidAmerican for \$4b.

DES MOINES, Iowa (Reuters) - CalEnergy Co. Inc. said yesterday it has agreed to buy MidAmerican Energy Holdings Co. for around \$4 billion cash or \$27.15 per share, in a move to gain control of regional energy markets in the United States and Britain.

CalEnergy said the combined company would have total annual revenues of around \$5 billion, assets of \$11.8 billion and would serve around 3.3 million retail customers.

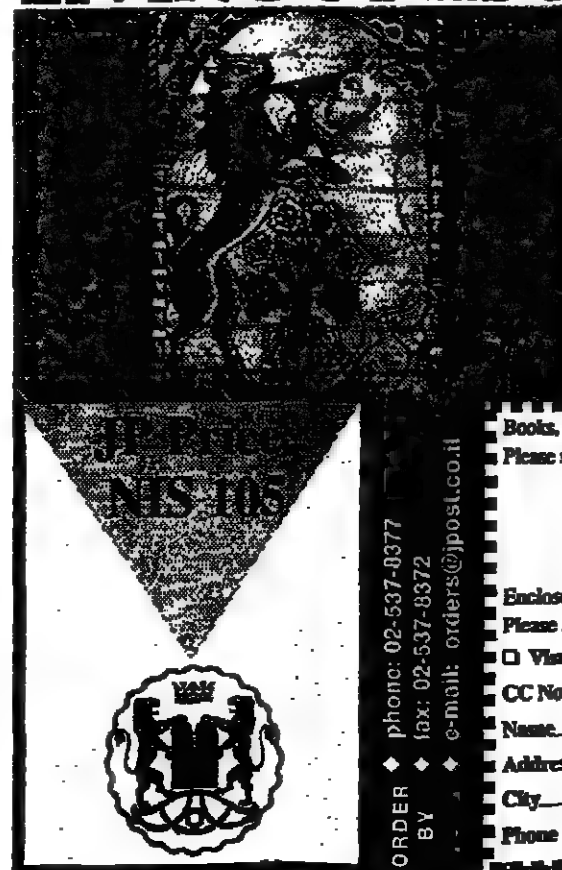
CalEnergy expects the transaction to add to its earnings in the first full year of combined operations. The \$4 billion cash deal includes \$1.4 billion of

MidAmerican debt and preferred stock.

MidAmerican, a low-cost energy company, serves around 1.3 million electricity and gas customers in Iowa and three neighboring states. CalEnergy owns power operations in the United States, Asia, and Europe and supplies electricity and gas to two million UK customers.

CalEnergy chairman and CEO David Sokol will continue in this role in the combined company. MidAmerican chairman, CEO, and president Stanley Bright will be chairman of the merged company, while Greg Abel will be president.

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Ida Huberman

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Tel Aviv

Dead Sea Works Ltd., a maker of fertilizer which earns about a quarter of its revenue from Asia, rose 4.68 percent to NIS 9.18, a day before the company plans to announce its second-quarter earn-

Asia

"The fundamentals of the economy and the stock market remain awful," said Celia Farnon, an equity saleswoman at Nomura Securities Co. "While investors

Japan yen-purchase hints pinch dollar

"Although intervention is a

The joint dollar sales helped lop as much as 13 yen off the US currency's value in three days, taking it as low as 133.69 yen. It has since recouped nearly all of its losses.

Oil up on US inventory-drop report

Energy

They closed on Tuesday at \$11.64 a barrel, the lowest closing price since October 7, 1988. The American Petroleum Institute reported late Tuesday that US gasoline inventories fell by 4.12 million barrels to 215.35 million

Precious metals

The Japanese finance ministry's vice minister for international affairs, Eisuke Sakakibara, sug-

COMMODITIES



Gold \$283.85 ▼ 0.14%
 Crude Oil \$51.42 ▲ 0.18%
 CRB 202.65 ▼ 0.25%

Others

Cocoa fell as much as 1.4 percent to its lowest in more than two weeks, as rains soaked trees in Ivory Coast, leading to expectations for a large crop from in the world's biggest grower later this year. Cocoa trees benefited from rain in July and should yield more beans than in 1997, analysts said. Cocoa has fallen 4% in London since July 8 because of ample rain in Ivory Coast. Cocoa for September delivery dropped as much as 15 pounds (\$24.46), or 1.4% to 1,047 pounds a metric ton on the London International

US bonds slip ahead of 10-year note sale

BONDS



US 30-year T-bill yield
5.62 ▲ 0.02

slowing, while inflation is sub-
dued.

Southeastern US manufacturers said business increased at a slower rate in July, according to the report. The Atlanta Fed's national

US bonds fell for the first time in

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell 11/32, or \$3.44 per \$1,000 bond, pushing the yield up 2 basis points to 5.62 percent. Yields yesterday briefly fell to 5.55% — the lowest since the Treasury began regular sales of the

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production index fell to 3.4 in July from 11.7 in June.

Treasury yields reached record lows yesterday as investors sought government securities as a haven after Japan said its worst recession since World War II is deepening.

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**fueling concern global profit
growth will slow and driving stock**

government debt, traders said. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index rose 8.54 in early trading to 1077.52, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed 51.75 to 8514.60. (Bloomberg)

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Ascor Alu.	1142	+45	995.5	+6
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Marine	193			
Plumb	1			
Plumb Placid	409.5	+2.5		
Perfor	1084	+47		
Perfor	1084	+47		

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Foreign financial data courtesy of
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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.080	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates very higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (12.8.98)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	3.8982	3.9611	—	—	3.9308
U.S. dollar	3.8590	3.7150	3.69	3.77	3.6840
German mark	2.0583	2.0915	2.02	2.13	2.0787
Pound sterling	5.9818	6.0580	5.85	6.15	6.0029
French franc	0.6138	0.6238	0.60	0.64	0.6198
Japanese yen (100)	2.5057	2.5482	2.48	2.59	2.5394
Deutch mark	1.8256	1.8551	1.79	1.89	1.8437
Swiss franc	2.4572	2.4989	2.41	2.54	2.4813
Swedish krona	0.4513	0.4660	0.44	0.47	0.4658
Norwegian krona	0.4829	0.4907	0.47	0.50	0.4881
Danish krona	0.5403	0.5491	0.53	0.56	0.5458
Finnish mark	0.6767	0.6977	0.66	0.70	0.6936
Canadian dollar	2.4029	2.4417	2.36	2.48	2.4282
Australian dollar	2.1898	2.2160	2.14	2.25	2.2076
S. African rand	0.5771	0.5865	0.521	0.59	0.5848
Belgian franc (10)	0.9981	1.0142	0.98	1.03	1.0079
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9254	2.9928	2.87	3.02	2.9549
Italian lira (1000)	2.0983	2.1289	2.05	2.15	2.1070
Jordanian dinar	5.1420	5.2250	5.05	5.42	5.1944
Egyptian pound	1.0400	1.1300	1.04	1.13	1.1236
ECU	0.0685	0.1220	—	—	0.0838
Irish punt	5.1678	5.2512	5.07	5.38	5.2147
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4256	2.4643	2.38	2.50	2.4481

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Rios upset by Vacek, Agassi rolls on

MASON, Ohio (AP) — Marcelo Rios of Chile, who took over the top ranking on the ATP Tour this week, was no match Tuesday night for power-serving Daniel Vacek of the Czech Republic.

Vacek, ranked 53rd in tour standings, blew away Rios 6-3, 6-2 in 62 minutes in the second round of the \$2.45 million ATP Championship.

Rios, looking lackluster, stayed at the baseline most of the time, hung his head after hitting numerous returns into the net and watched helplessly as Vacek repeatedly knocked the ball past him.

It was Rios' first tour match as the No. 1 player, although he held that position for about four weeks earlier this year. It also was his first match on a hard court since

March, and he was bothered by the lights.

Rios failed to hold serve in the sixth game, so all Vacek had to do was stay on serve the rest of the set. Vacek broke Rios in the third game of the second set, won the next game with a 126 mph ace and broke Rios again in the fifth game.

Both players held serve the rest of the way, although Vacek made the last game interesting, double-faulting at 40-15 and twice more before putting Rios away.

It was Vacek's first win over a No. 1-ranked player, although he had beaten Rios once in four previous matches.

In another evening match, Magnus Larsson of Sweden upset countryman Jonas Bjorkman, the No. 6 seed, 6-7 (2-7), 6-2, 6-3.

The evening program was rife

with upsets. Magnus Larsson of Sweden defeated countryman Jonas Bjorkman, the No. 6 seed, 6-7 (2-7), 6-2, 6-3. And Jan-Michael Gambill beat 16th-seeded Cedric Pioline of France 6-7 (5-7), 7-6 (7-5), 6-4.

Earlier, a re-energized Andre Agassi, back in the top 10 for the first time since January 1997, kept his comeback rolling by beating Nicolas Pietrangeli of Germany.

Serving in game 12 of the second set and facing elimination, Agassi won four straight points to force a tiebreak after falling behind 30-0, then dominated Kiefer and won 4-6, 7-6 (7-3), 6-2.

Thomas Muster of Austria beat 11th-seeded Tim Henman of Britain 6-4, 7-5 and Wayne Ferreira of South Africa defeated 15th-seeded Felix Mantilla of

Spain 7-6 (7-5), 7-5.

In other matches, Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine beat Arnaud Clement of France 6-4, 6-3; Jerome Golmard of France defeated countryman Nicolas Escude 6-2, 6-7 (2-7), 6-3; Scott Draper of Australia downed Nicolas Pietrangeli of Germany 6-4, 6-6, 7-5, and Mark Philippoussis of Australia beat Byron Black of Zimbabwe 6-2, 6-3.

Also, 14th-seeded Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia beat Andrew Ilie of Australia 6-4, 0-6, 6-4; Marcos Ondruska of South Africa defeated Steve Campbell 5-7, 6-2, 6-3; Michael Chang topped Todd Woodbridge of Australia 6-1, 3-6, 6-2, and Martin Damm of the Czech Republic beat Mark Woodforde of Australia 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.

Pick only the best men to stand says SA umpiring chief

DURBAN (Reuters) — The United Cricket Board's (UCB) director of umpiring, Brian Basson, conceded yesterday that the human eye was no rival to technology but insisted the man in the middle should stay in control of decisions.

"The quality of modern slow motion television replays is so good that the umpire doesn't stand a chance against them," Basson said from Johannesburg.

He agreed that the use of technology was a welcome development but said it was "vital that the umpire still makes the decision to call for assistance."

Basson was reacting to the media storm that has broken in South Africa in the wake of poor umpiring in the series against England.

But he said that before too many technical

changes were introduced, the game's administrators should instead reduce the number of umpires on the Test panel.

The panel of 20 Test umpires is drawn from each of the nine full members of the International Cricket Council. England supply four because they are the only member with professional umpires, with two each coming from the other countries.

"We should reduce the panel, because I don't think there are 20 umpires in the world capable of doing the job at that level," Basson said, adding he would prefer a system of merit selection irrespective of nationality.

The UCB's management committee meets next Wednesday to discuss the possibility of broadening the television umpire's role in domestic matches.

BASEBALL

Continued from Page 20

Marlins & Dodgers 6

Rookie Todd Dunwoody led a 17-hit attack with a double, homer and three RBI as the lowly Florida Marlins handed the host Dodgers a blow in the wild-card race.

Rookies Mark Kotsay and Derek Lee combined to go 7-for-10 with three RBI for Florida, which has the worst record in the major leagues at 43-76.

Diamondbacks 7, Phillies 3

Tony Batista homered twice and Andy Benes (10-11) pitched six scoreless innings before being the last Diamondback to defeat the reeling Phillies.

Philadelphia lost for the 11th time in 13 games.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Yankees 7, Twins 0

David Wells was not perfect, but his season at Yankee Stadium is.

Wells threw his third shutout of the season to improve to 15-2 overall and 10-0 at home as his Yankees scored a 7-0 victory over the Twins.

Wells, facing the Twins for the

first time since he threw a perfect game against them on May 17, yielded four hits and struck out three with no walks en route to his sixth career shutout — on three days' rest.

The Yankees have won six straight and are a staggering 44-8 at home. Minnesota lost for the ninth time in 10 games.

Red Sox 7, Royals 4

Nomar Garciaparra belted a three-run homer, his second of the game, with one out in the bottom of the 10th to power the host Red Sox to a 7-4 win over the Kansas City Royals.

Garciaparra drilled a 2-0 pitch from Jeff Montgomery (1-4) over the screen on top of the Green Monster in left field to give the Red Sox their 36th come-from-behind win and their 14th victory in their last at-bat.

Rangers 2, Indians 1

Mike Simms homered for the second straight game as the visiting Rangers edged the Indians in a battle of first-place teams.

Winner Esteban Loaiza (1-2) allowed one run over 7 1/3 innings, and was five outs away from his second career shutout before allow-

ing a solo homer to Jeff Manto.

Angels 5, Tigers 4

The Tigers lost their season-high eighth straight game when left fielder Luis Gonzalez's fielding error allowed Jim Edmonds to score the go-ahead run in the top of the 11th inning, giving the visiting Angels a 5-4 victory.

Mike Fetters (2-6), making his debut for the Angels after being acquired from the Athletics, struck out Tony Clark with runners on first and second to end the 10th for his first victory since July 5.

Athletics 6, White Sox 4

Knuckleballer Tom Candiotti (8-13) went 7 2/3 innings as he won his third straight start and Bip Roberts and Ben Grievie drove in two runs apiece to lead the visiting Athletics to victory over Chicago.

The right-hander got some defensive help from Roberts in center field and Rickey Henderson in left. Roberts smashed into the padded center-field wall in the eighth inning to deny Frank Thomas an extra-base hit and Henderson stole a two-run homer from Jeff Abbott in the second by leaping and sticking his glove above the left-field

wall for the catch.

Devil Rays 2, Orioles 1

Bobby Smith lined a single down the left-field line with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to score Kevin Stocker and lift host Tampa

Bay to a 2-1 victory over Baltimore.

Armando Benitez (4-3) took the loss.

Jim Mecir (5-2) pitched 1 2/3 scoreless innings for the victory.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

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